



Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Justification



Forest
Service

May 2017

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USDA Forest Service Annual Performance Report

Introduction

The Nation's forests are a fundamental part of the American landscape, of the Nation's identity, and are a legacy that the Forest Service holds in trust for future generations. The forests provide clean air and water, recreational opportunities, jobs, and a multitude of forest products. The Forest Service plays a critical role in protecting and restoring America's forests and grasslands and making them more resilient to threats and disturbances. In FY 2016, the Forest Service worked to enhance water resources, respond to the effects of drought, and reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire. The Forest Service demonstrates our achievements, identifies challenges, and examines program strategies and methods by using performance systems that measure activities and monitor performance results throughout the year.

In the following pages the agency shares how performance management is evolving to focus on high-level agency outcomes which will help make strategic investments to make the Nation's forests and grasslands more resilient. This chapter presents three strategic goals, one management goal, and a cross-cutting emphasis on optimizing organizational capacity. The objectives and the performance measures associated with each represent the agency's progress toward those goals.

Key Performance Indicators	FY 2012 Actual	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016	
					Planned	Actual
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	2,569,617	2,533,121	2,906,018	3,100,979	2,900,000	3,214,598
Volume of timber sold (million board feet (MMBF))	2,644	2,610	2,831	2,867	3,200	2,942
Percent of national forests in compliance with a drought adaptation and mitigation strategy	36%	49%	64%	88.5%	100%	100%
Percent of watersheds in properly functioning condition	52%	52%	52%	52%	52%	53%
Acres of wildland-urban interface (WUI) high-priority hazardous fuels treated	1,867,202	1,736,927	1,725,077	1,577,188	2,016,049	1,800,000

Mission Statement

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

Forest Service Performance Management Framework

The Forest Service has an established performance management framework that tracks our outputs and outcomes and measures our progress towards goals. The framework begins with the agency strategic plan and then each programmatic area or function identifies evidence and performance measures that demonstrate progress towards established goals and objectives, and drive programmatic or strategic decisions. Some performance measures track program outputs and others inform short-, mid-, and long-term outcomes.

Targets are set annually for all measures in the Budget Justification. The targets are issued to the Regions, Stations,

and Area (generally referred to as “the field”) upon enactment of an Appropriations Bill or full year funding bill. As work occurs on the ground throughout the year, the agency tracks and reports on accomplishments that support these performance measures. These accomplishments represent the collective work of:

- more than 600 ranger districts on 154 national forests and 20 national grasslands,
- nine regional offices,
- northeastern area for State and Private Forestry, and
- seven primary stations including five research stations, the Forest Products Laboratory, and the International Institute for Tropical Forestry.

The agency reports official accomplishments annually to USDA, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Congress, and the public. Leadership also uses accomplishment data to inform progress and provide accountability for results.

Data Validity and Verification

The Forest Service uses a number of processes and controls to ensure data quality and validity. Beginning in FY 2014, the agency started requiring that performance measures have an associated Data Quality Assurance (DQA) Plan that establishes data stewardship roles and responsibilities at various levels in the agency, names responsible personnel by role, and provides training modules tailored to roles intended to establish uniformity in the agency’s knowledge base on data stewardship. By the end of FY 2017, all measures will have a DQA Plan. Field staff and managers are responsible for the completeness and quality of the data at the ranger district, national forest, and regional levels. Regional leadership certify performance of all appropriate procedures to ensure validity and reliability of key performance data, and to document data that do not meet the standard.

Flow of Strategic Goals, Objectives, and Strategic Performance Goals**Strategic Goal: Sustain Our Nation's Forests and Grasslands**

Strategic Objective A: Foster Resilient, Adaptive Ecosystems to Mitigate Climate Change

By 2020:

- Improve or sustain productivity and ecological health on public and private forest and grazing land.
- Increase the proportion of acres with ecological benefit from natural ignition to 80 percent.
- Achieve a Forest Service-wide 25 percent reduction of Greenhouse Gas Scope 1 & 2 emissions and a 10 percent reduction in Scope 3.¹

Strategic Objective B: Mitigate Wildfire Risk

By 2020, reduce wildfire risk on the highest priority National Forest System lands by five percent.

Strategic Objective C: Conserve Open Space

By 2020, increase the connectivity of State and Private lands in priority areas and key National Forest System lands by 15 to 25 percent from 2014, and double the retention of working forests in key landscapes identified in Forest Action Plans from 2014 baseline.

Strategic Goal: Deliver Benefits to the Public

Strategic Objective D: Provide Abundant Clean Water

By 2020, 54 percent of national forest and grassland watersheds will be functioning properly.

Strategic Objective E: Strengthen Communities

The agency will continue to achieve mandatory Procurement Preference Goals annually, ensuring that a significant portion of the agency's contracted work is awarded to small, minority-owned, veteran-owned, or other disadvantaged business category.

Strategic Objective F: Connect People to the Outdoors

By 2020, increase the percent of people engaging in meaningful outdoor experiences by six percent from 2014.

Strategic Goal: Apply Knowledge Globally

Strategic Objective G: Advance Knowledge

By 2020, increase the external use of Forest Service-based knowledge products by five percent from FY 2014 levels.

¹The Greenhouse Gas Protocol separates greenhouse gas emissions into three different categories, or Scopes. Scope 1 emissions arise directly from sources that are owned or controlled by the agency, for example from fuels used in our boilers or the fleet vehicles; Scope 2 emissions are generated by purchased electricity, heat or steam consumed by the agency; and Scope 3 emissions are a consequence of the activities of the Forest Service but occur from sources not owned or controlled by us such as emissions associated with waste, water, business travel, commuting and procurement.

Strategic Objective H: Transfer Technology and Applications

By 2020, 90 percent of all enterprise Forest Service datasets designated for public consumption are externally available to the public as downloadable files, map services, applications, or application program interfaces.

Strategic Objective I: Exchange Natural Resource Expertise

Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center students graduate with job placements at or above the Department of Labor national average.

Management Goal: Excel as a High-Performing Agency

Strategic Goal: Sustain our Nation's Forests and Grasslands

The Nation's vast forests and grasslands are essential to the country's ecological, physical, biological, economic, cultural, and social well-being. Impacts from severe wildfires, insects and diseases, invasive species, human activities, drought, extreme weather, and other visible disturbances have raised public awareness about the environment. These impacts, combined with varying human demands, perpetually challenge our ability to ensure that ecosystems are healthy, resilient, and thus more adaptable to changing conditions. Long-term conservation across land ownership boundaries through collaborative partnerships and knowledge transfer can enhance the natural functions of the land and can contribute to sustainability—the ability of forests and grasslands to produce goods and services that people want and need, both now and in the future.

Strategic Objective A. Foster Resilient, Adaptive Ecosystems to Mitigate Climate Change

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, improve or sustain productivity and ecological health on public and private forest and grazing land.

Overview

Millions of acres of public and private forests and grasslands are at risk due to uncharacteristically severe wildfires, drought, and insect and disease outbreaks. By managing to this strategic performance goal, the Forest Service works to make forests and grasslands more resilient to threats, and more capable of delivering benefits to the American people, while sustaining forest carbon sequestration and storage capacity to help mitigate the effects of drought. Resilient landscapes provide access to clean water, air, and fish and wildlife habitat, as well as the full range of ecosystem services such as carbon sequestration, recreation access, and timber and biomass production.

Key Performance Indicators

					FY 2016	
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Target	Actual
All lands restored/enhanced (acres)	4,424,845	4,703,857	4,968,161	5,286,115	4,915,000	6,139,235
Grazing allotments administered to standard (acres)	30,396,997	29,268,333	29,794,000	28,605,088	27,000,000	29,711,012

Supporting Performance Indicators

FY 2016 marked the sixth year for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP). The program continues to build collaborative partnerships and increase capacity for on-the-ground project implementation while making substantial progress in restoring ecosystem resilience and reducing the risk of uncharacteristic wildland fire on high-risk landscapes. The CFLRP has met or exceeded its five-year targets for a majority of performance measures, including timber volume sold, hazardous fuels reduced, and wildlife habitat improved. The program is on track to meet its lifetime goals over its 10-year timeframe. Also in 2016, in cooperation with The Nature

Conservancy, the National Forest Foundation, and CFLRP partners, the agency strengthened outreach and understanding of the CFLRP by highlighting program accomplishments on 23 project fact sheets available at The Nature Conservancy website at: <http://www.nature.org/cflr>. (The project fact sheets were produced by The Nature Conservancy in partnership with the Forest Service and National Forest Foundation.)

In FY 2016, the Forest Service used authorities in the Agriculture Act of 2014 (Farm Bill) to accomplish collaborative restoration work at a landscape scale. To date, 67 projects have been proposed using the Farm Bill insect and disease provisions. These projects span eight regions, 37 national forests and 17 States. The agency used the Good Neighbor Authority to enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with States and Puerto Rico to allow them to perform watershed restoration and forest management services on Federal and non-Federal lands. Fifty-four agreements in 20 States have been executed with the Forest Service to perform a variety of restoration services. Master Agreements establish a framework for the State-Forest Service collaborative relationship with future projects identified in Supplemental Project Agreements. Master agreements have been executed in 17 States: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming. In addition, stewardship contracting continued to be an important tool for achieving restoration outcomes.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

The annual acres of public and private forest lands restored or enhanced looks at a broad suite of treatments and work across the landscape including agency efforts under Integrated Resource Restoration (IRR) to improve watershed function and resilience, a main driver of progress toward the stated objective. FY 2016 was the fifth year the agency piloted the IRR Program in Regions 1, 3, and 4. Pilot regions continued integration across disciplines to plan and implement landscape-scale restoration projects in collaboration with partners and local communities to more efficiently achieve restoration outcomes. The IRR pilot has allowed the Forest Service to better integrate resource programs to focus on high priority restoration work, address unexpected challenges, conduct larger projects and enter into multi-year contracts. In addition to landscape treatments undertaken, proper administration of grazing allotments helps to maintain healthy rangelands that sustain forage for livestock.

Across all regions in FY 2016, the agency increased restoration efforts while also maintaining strong timber and biomass programs important to rural communities and economies. More integrated work boosted our restoration efforts by reducing hazardous fuels on 2.1 million acres in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) resulting in reduced threats to communities. The agency also sustained or restored watershed conditions on 3.2 million acres, while producing 2.94 billion board feet of timber volume sold. These accomplishments contribute to our goal of establishing healthy forests and grasslands resilient to the effects of drought.

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, increase the Proportion of Acres with Ecological Benefit from Natural Ignition to 80 Percent.

Overview

Wildland fire is a natural and necessary component of restoring and maintaining most of the ecosystems managed by the Forest Service. Naturally-ignited fire can transform dead and dying material into nutrients, control insect populations, create habitat for wildlife, and foster conditions for establishment of plant communities. Many forest and grassland plant and animal species rely on immediate post-fire and early successional conditions for their survival. Naturally-ignited wildland fires are an important part of work because fire can reduce hazardous fuels and restore resilience to landscapes, especially those ecosystems adapted to frequent fire. In addition, wildland fires can reduce the likelihood of high-severity fires in the future.

In addition to the ecosystem benefits, when the agency allows naturally-ignited fires to burn it can lower risks to personnel; and costs associated with suppressing fires as quickly as possible, or traditional, mechanical fuels treatments. Naturally-ignited wildland fires are often the most effective way to meet restoration objectives in remote areas like wilderness. However, the Forest Service does not use this tool as often as it could. Internal or public pressure to put wildfires out quickly and the possibility of larger and more severe fires resulting from extensive fuels buildup are major reasons. Our objective is to allow fire to resume its natural role in ecosystems by increasing the percentage of wildland fires that naturally burn within safe parameters to benefit resources, thereby decreasing

the risk of catastrophic fires, better protecting communities, and creating and maintaining landscapes that are more resilient.

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY2015	FY 2016	
					Target	Actual
Percent of acres burned by natural ignition with resource benefits*	-	-	70%	-	-	-

**This is a newly developed indicator that the agency is currently evaluating and piloting. An established baseline of 70% in FY 2014 replaces annual targets.*

The percentage equals the number of acres burned with resource benefits divided by the number of acres burned by naturally-ignited wildfires.

The use of natural fire for ecological restoration is dependent on natural fire activity, which is characteristically random. Fire managers always assess the potential wildfire spread, behavior, and values impacted by each wildfire to decide the best strategy and tactics. With increased education and decision support tools, fire managers will be better equipped to identify when the conditions are present to manage wildfire for resource benefits. Investing in decision support systems to inform agency leaders and fire managers' decisions on when using natural fire can be safe and effective will support our objectives. Additionally, with targeted fuels treatments, more of the landscape will transition into a condition where fire can resume its natural role.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

In FY 2016, the agency began implementation on a pilot basis for this new indicator. Progress will be assessed at the end of the five-year period (FY 2016-2021). The Forest Service expects to have preliminary results to compare against the FY 2014 baseline in FY 2017. Since this is a new measure, the agency is using FY 2015 and FY 2016 data to determine the best method to extract and calculate this indicator from two independent databases with different reporting cycles. Progress along this performance measure will represent improvement in the landscape condition and our wildland fire management practices. The measure is an indicator of how wildfire management, fire ecology, and agency leadership can work together to achieve desired conditions and leverage advantageous circumstances.

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, achieve a Forest Service-wide 25 Percent Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Scope 1 & 2 Emissions and a 10 Percent Reduction in Scope 3.

Overview

The Forest Service is integrating its land stewardship mission with practices that reduce consumption and achieve cost savings and efficiencies in overall resource use over the long run. Agency operations and assets must become more resilient to extreme weather so the agency can continue to provide a high level of service while caring for the National Forest System (NFS) lands. There is a direct relationship between healthy forests and potable water, energy consumption, waste management, clean air, and modes of transportation.

Increased attention to the consumption impacts and the cost of operations of the Federal sector reiterates the need for expanding adoption of sustainable operations practices and behaviors. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emission measures show progress in more finite areas such as renewable energy, reductions in petroleum consumption, and increased use of telework to reduce commuting-related emissions. The agency set bold targets under this goal, and actively support activities that address the overall impacts of extreme weather, such as drought, and those that increase operational and asset resiliency through greater efficiencies and cost savings.

The Forest Service continues to focus on four categories of activities to 1) provide easy access to accurate, transparent consumption and cost data; 2) increase footprint and cost and consumption awareness; 3) provide organizational capacity to implement efficiencies; and 4) implement strategic reduction measures.

Key Performance Indicators

The key performance indicator is the GHG level reported by metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO₂e) in the Annual GHG Report to the USDA. The table below depicts totals reported for the past five years:

Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014**	FY 2015**	FY 2016	
					Target	Actual**
Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions, MT	257,521	282,628	224,037	238,106	214,102	207,950
Scope 3 GHG emissions, MT CO ₂ e	103,954	91,388	110,797	107,721	16,061	109,347
Total GHG emissions, MT CO ₂ e	361,475	374,016	334,834	345,827	230,163	317,297

** Corrected figures differ from initial reporting

‡ Target based on adjusted baseline

Supporting Performance Indicators

The Forest Service conducts land stewardship using practices that reduce our resource consumption and environmental footprint. The agency is focusing on reducing on-the-ground consumption, piloting scalable innovations, and developing policy that is integrated and solution-oriented.

The agency measures footprint reduction in six areas: energy, water, waste reduction and recycling, fleet and transportation, sustainable acquisition, and sustainable leadership. Reducing the footprint in these areas supports changes in behaviors and systems that can have significant impacts on greenhouse gas reduction. The agency tracks our progress in these areas.

The Forest Service identified priority action items that were/are scalable agency wide and effective in reducing consumption. Priority actions in FY 2016 were to complete Utility Bill Cleanup to identify baseline energy consumption and implement a Vehicle Idling policy to reduce fuel consumption. The agency has phased implementation for both efforts.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

In FY 2016, the agency improved data systems for all footprint areas and updated the baselines. The accuracy and completeness of GHG emissions reporting varies with the accuracy and completeness of consumption data. For example, in FY 2014, utility payment systems changed partway through the fiscal year resulting in under-reporting Scope 1 & 2 emissions; and in FY 2013, the agency did not report a subset of Scope 3 data. For that reason, numbers reported in the table above do not tell the full story of the Forest Service's GHG emission profiles, and may not be an accurate measure of effectiveness. Data clean-up initiatives (such as completing the Utility Bill Cleanup) and standardizing reporting methodology resulted in improved reporting.

Strategic Objective B. Mitigate Wildfire Risk

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, Reduce Wildfire Risk on the Highest Priority National Forest System Lands by Five Percent.

Overview

The Fire and Aviation Management program supports the three goals of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy: fire-adapted communities, resilient landscapes, and safe, effective fire response. The prevention, preparedness, response, and hazardous fuels programs work together to reduce wildfire risk. The Forest Service cannot eliminate the occurrence of wildfire through prevention and fuel treatment programs. However, fuel treatments, along with preparedness, strongly affect our ability to prepare for, absorb the effects of, respond to, and recover from wildfire in both natural and human communities. Fuel treatments can also be instrumental in reducing risk in order to increase the number of acres that burn with resource benefit, as described in Strategic Objective A.

Fuel treatments provide safer conditions and more strategic options for fire managers and firefighters. Limited resources require the agency to prioritize areas for fuel treatment by risk (e.g., places where values are high, multiple highly valued resources and assets are present and susceptible, the probability of fire is high, and/or expected fire intensity is high), as well as where the agency can effectively mitigate risk by reducing expected fire intensity.

Although the benefit of individual fuel treatments is well known and documented, the Forest Service continues to move the Hazardous Fuels program towards becoming more risk-based. The Forest Service is evaluating the nature and extent of the fuels problem in terms of risk from wildfire to key values, evolving towards determining treatment and funding priorities based on those risks, and developing ways to measure accomplishment and program success in terms of risk reduction.

Key Performance Indicators					FY 2016	
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Target	Actual
National Forest System Wildfire Risk Index	-	-	100	N/A*	N/A*	100

*FY 2014 is the baseline and will use the pilot years to set a target in FY 2020.

The Forest Service is piloting this newly developed indicator to describe the relative risk of wildfire on NFS lands over time. The agency worked with fire scientists to develop a national scale methodology. The agency piloted the measure using available data in FY 2016 and have established a FY 2014 baseline reading of the index and set the value at “100.” The area this indicator is evaluating is large—the entire NFS in the lower 48 States—so annual fluctuations are likely to be very small. For this reason, the agency has not identified annual targets, but have developed a 2020 target - the final year of the Strategic Plan. The measure is an index of relative “fire risk” based on the likelihood of a large fire impacting highly valued resources. Input data will be updated biannually. The Forest Service are developing procedures that may be able to estimate annual changes. The agency will re-calculate the index and determine whether there is an overall reduction in national risk. Changes that could affect the index include fuel treatments, wildfire, forest management, vegetation growth, increased WUI, insects and disease, and increases in fire-adapted communities.

Supporting Performance Indicators

Each fiscal year, the Forest Service measures the number of acres on which the agency treats hazardous fuels on the NFS, both outside and inside the WUI. This helps the agency to evaluate the number of acres which the agency is attempting to reduce risk, but does not inform the nature of the risk, either before or after the treatment. In FY 2016, the agency made reporting changes to ensure tracking of the ‘footprint’ on the landscape by collecting spatial data. Fire management personnel are using the spatial representation of fuel treatments to manage wildfires more effectively and more safely. The Forest Service also monitors the efficacy of fuel treatments if a wildfire tests the effectiveness of the treatments. In addition to monitoring overall effectiveness, this data helps us to drill down into design factors to improve the prescriptive details of future treatments.

The Forest Service is also refining the way the agency accounts for acres treated for hazardous fuels reduction to better account for desired outcomes – actual acres where fuels have been effectively mitigated (footprint). In the past, reported hazardous fuels acres accomplishments reflected work awarded or completed, but not necessarily a mitigation of the hazardous fuel conditions. The Forest Service began tracking new measures in FY 2016 that count fuel treatment mitigation when the unit certifies completion of all the planned treatments and that the fuels are in the desired condition based on the relevant National Environmental Protection Agency documentation. The Forest Service continues to track intermediate treatments for continuity and for overall activity tracking, but will use the new measures for assessing outcomes (see the Hazardous Fuels section for more information on these new measures). More meaningful reporting will help the agency to focus on the most important work, to increase resilient landscapes, and reduce wildfire risk.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

The Forest Service plans to continue to pilot this newly developed indicator at the landscape scale while monitoring and refining the national scale methodology. In FY 2016 the agency established the baseline conditions by

completing national fire probability and intensity modeling and developing susceptibility of highly valued resources by identifying how these resources respond to various intensities of fire. As LANDFIRE fuels data is updated the agency will be able to assess the change in risk using the methods developed. Very little change may occur annually in the risk index, due to the size of the evaluation area and the number of acres that the agency can treat to reduce hazardous fuels each year. The purpose of this indicator is to assess landscape change over time and it will be most meaningful to assess outcomes at the end of a five-year period. This can provide critical information for monitoring trends in risk and evaluating the performance of previous risk mitigation investments.

Quantifying wildfire risk facilitates analysis of tradeoffs across highly valued resources and enables cost-effectiveness analysis as a basis for evaluating risk mitigation options. The Forest Service has a limited capacity to do fuels treatment work, and risk assessment is one important way to prioritize treatments. The potential scope of the fuels problem nationally is large and constantly changing. This strategic performance goal and associated performance goal indicator are one way to ensure the agency is investing resources effectively and efficiently to address fuels treatment.

Strategic Objective C. Conserve Open Space

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, increase the connectivity of State and Private lands in priority areas and key NFS lands by 15 to 25 percent from 2014, and double the retention of working forests in key landscapes identified in Forest Action Plans from 2014 baseline.

Overview

The Nation loses an estimated 6,000 acres of open space each day, at an average rate of four acres per minute. By 2060, U.S. forest area is predicted to decline by 16-34 million acres.¹ In addition, 21 million acres of private rural lands near National Forests and Grasslands will experience substantial housing density increases by 2030.² In the west, private homes are present on 16 percent of the WUI. If 50 percent of the WUI were developed, the estimated cost of protecting the homes from catastrophic wildfires would be \$4 to 5 billion.³

Open space development affects our ability to manage the national forests and grasslands, as well as our ability to help private landowners and communities sustainably manage their land to maintain ecosystem services. The Forest Service is working towards an interconnected network of open space across the landscape that supports healthy ecosystems and a high quality of life for Americans. Fully realized, this network of sustainably managed private forests and rangelands, national forests and grasslands, other public land, riparian areas and wildlife corridors, and urban greenspaces will complement each other across the landscape to provide ecosystem services, wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, and sustainable products.

One of our primary land management objectives is to increase the connectivity of forests and grasslands. Consolidating the fragmented lands into public ownership supports landscape and watershed level restoration efforts, habitat management, and recreation access for the public. Undoing checkerboard ownership can make public lands more accessible. Every square mile of checkerboard land acquired connects three square miles of lands. For example, the agency estimate that the 144,000 acres acquired through a land exchange on the Lolo and Flathead National Forests in FY 2014 reconnected over 400,000 acres, bringing dramatic efficiencies of scale for wildfire protection, wildlife and game management, and public access. This example illustrates how connecting fragmented lands, especially in the WUI, provides multiple benefits: reduced cost for fire-fighting, reduced risk to firefighters, residents, and property, and a connected landscape to better support wildlife and recreation.⁴

¹Future of America's Forests and Rangelands: Forest Service 2010 Resources Planning Act Assessment. Forest Service GTR WO-87; August 2012. http://www.fs.fed.us/research/publications/gtr/gtr_wo87.pdf

²National Forests on the Edge: Development Pressures on America's National Forests and Grasslands. Stein et. Al, 2007. http://www.fs.fed.us/openspace/fote/national_forests_on_the_edge.html

³Headwaters Economics. Available at: <http://headwaterseconomics.org/wildfire/fire-research-summary>.

⁴USDA OIG, Western Region, Audit Report, Forest Service Large Fire Suppression Costs, 7, 10, ii, Report No. 08601-44-SF, November 2006

Key Performance Indicators					FY 2016	
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Target	Actual
Annual acres of NFS lands acquired or donated	26,330	62,133	54,230	11,805	27,823	27,844
Private forest acres protected by the FLP through conservation easements or fee-simple purchases Annual	52,999	87,927	34,715	106,369	95,000	106,143
Acres protected by the Community Forest Program through fee- simple purchases Annual	-	1,803	4,421	1,122	-*	1,304
Acres in important Forest Resource Areas covered by active Forest Stewardship Plans and forest stand Management Plans Annual	-	-	-	Baseline being established [†]	-	1,040,458
Acres in important Forest Resource Areas covered by Landscape Stewardship Plans Annual	-	-	-	Baseline being established [‡]	-	1,778,554

*The agency does not set targets for this indicator because of the difficulty in predicting the closing dates for real estate transaction.

Reporting for this data transitioned to the SMART system in FY 2014. The agency is still assessing data for quality control purposes, so FY 2014 is a baseline year.

‡This is a new measure with only preliminary data in the system in FY 2014.

The Forest Service is evaluating potential metrics such as structural connectivity and aggregation, and will evaluate how they work within and between geographic regions. This will help to evaluate the combined contributions of agency investments on a landscape scale, rather than evaluating them solely on a program-by-program basis.

Supporting Performance Indicators

Supporting indicators focus on connectivity of key landscapes and retention of working forests. These indicators include the number of community forests established each year, and the associated acres of those forests that the Community Forest and Open Space program protects. Trends in these indicators help us to determine whether interest is growing in this relatively new program. The agency has established 21 community forests since the program's inception in FY 2012, protecting a total of 8,651 acres. The number of application requests for this program helps to evaluate the demand, and helps to focus on outreach efforts regarding the program. In FY 2016, the agency was able to fund eight of 20 requests for funding and the program had four closings.

The agency also collects information on connectivity that helps evaluate its impact on watershed protection, critical imperiled species, and effects on the forest products industry. For example, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources acquired the 6,869-acre Lentile Longleaf Pine Tract, securing Georgia's largest unprotected gopher tortoise population. The tortoise is a candidate for federal listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but the conservation of this tract could potentially prevent that. This outcome could avoid negative impacts on the State's commercial timber industry, commercial activity and Department of Defense military installations.

The Landscape Stewardship Approach will allow the agency to increase connectivity in priority areas identified in States' Forest Action Plans and retain more working forests while also helping private landowners consolidate their properties. The approach involves developing and implementing landscape-scale and community-based planning where State Forest Action Plans suggest that opportunities exist. To accomplish this, the Forest Service engages multiple owners of interconnected forest properties to achieve one or more forest resource management objectives, such as creating economies of scale for local forest product markets. In Hawaii, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, partners, and community members developed the 1,200 acre Kapapala Koa Canoe Forest's management plan to restore the native Acacia koa forest for its environmental, cultural, and economic values. The innovative program introduces students to the complex interactions between the trees, birds, and water. In total, through this

work, almost 1.8 million acres in important forest resource areas are now covered by Landscape Stewardship Plans.

In 2016, the Forest Service completed an historic acquisition in the Smith River National Recreation Area on the Six Rivers National Forest in northern California. The acquisition, named “Hurdygurdy”, was the last large inholding in the recreation area. The 5,300 acres contains the headwaters of three streams - Hurdygurdy, Little Jones and Siskiyou Fork, all designated Recreational Rivers under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. These streams serve as vital spawning habitat for coho and Chinook salmon, steelhead and coastal cutthroat trout. The acquisition will protect public access and enhance recreational opportunities especially to the Smith River known as a premier salmon stronghold in California. Support from local stakeholders such as the Del Norte County Fish & Game Advisor Commission, as well as national groups such as Trout Unlimited was very strong, and Congressional members provided public support for the acquisition.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

Investments and partners have grown significantly, resulting in the protection of over 2.6 million acres of threatened forest landscapes. When partnering, the agency focuses on multi-landowner plans across the landscape and work to create economies of scale for local forest products markets. The agency manages over 14.4 million acres in important forest resource areas under Forest Stewardship Plans. Pressures from rapid urban expansion will continue to increase, and stemming the tide of open space loss requires us to work at different scales among a variety of different agency programs— nationally, regionally, and locally—and to tailor our approaches to fit geographic regions.

Strategic Goal: Deliver Benefits to the Public

America’s forests and grasslands are pivotal in providing a wide range of benefits to the American people. Sustainable land management helps forests and grasslands to remain healthy and enables them to continue producing goods and services to meet multiple public demands, thereby contributing to human health, prosperity, and quality of life for local communities and for the Nation as a whole.

These lands provide recreational settings and opportunities; cultural and heritage resources; scenery; resources such as clean air and water, minerals, fish, wildlife, livestock forage, firewood, and various sources of renewable and nonrenewable energy; and corridors for communication and energy transmission. These benefits contribute billions of dollars to the national economy, underpin local economies in many rural areas and enhance the quality of life and sense of place for people in many communities.

Strategic Objective D: Provide Abundant Clean Water

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, 54 percent of national forest and grassland watersheds will be functioning properly.

Overview

In addition to providing a wide array of ecological and community benefits, healthy forests play a critical role in protecting access to abundant clean water for drinking and for other purposes. A properly functioning watershed is essential to providing a host of benefits including potable water, sustained surface water and groundwater flow, and fish and wildlife habitat. This strategic performance goal relies on the Watershed Condition Framework (WCF) as a foundation and guide for consistent identification of factors limiting a watershed’s condition, for determining the overall condition of a watershed, and for prioritizing those watersheds on which to focus restoration efforts. The annual results associated with this measure reflect not only work implemented within a given year, but represent the culmination of integrated, watershed-based work that started with implementation of the WCF and development of associated watershed restoration action plans. By managing to this goal, the agency seeks to ensure abundant, clean and reliable sources of freshwater.

Key Performance Indicators					FY 2016	
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY2014	FY2015	Target	Actual
Number of watersheds moved to an improved condition class	9	12	10	19	20	21
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	2,569,617	2,533,121	2,906,018	3,100,979	2,900,000	3,214,598
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	3,704	4,168	3,488	3,465	3,262	3,832

Supporting Performance Indicators

Road decommissioning makes important contributions to our portfolio of restoration efforts by reducing the environmental impact of the agency transportation systems. Road decommissioning activities include restoring lands occupied by roads to a more natural state, which positively affects water quality. In FY 2016, the agency decommissioned 937 miles of roads. The agency targets roads that are no longer needed, as well as unauthorized roads that are not part of the transportation system.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

Forest Service continues to make progress toward our Strategic Performance Goal of having 54 percent of the national forest and grassland watersheds functioning properly by 2020. In spite of large-scale, catastrophic fires in recent years, the agency finished the year with 53 percent of watersheds in properly functioning condition. The immediate negative effect of uncharacteristically severe wildfires on watershed health and function continues to present the agency with challenges. Catastrophic fire seasons like true 2015 fire season can move watersheds to a degraded condition faster than our investments and improvements can restore other areas. In addition to catastrophic fire, other disturbances on the landscape can also degrade watershed health and function. While the agency cannot control natural events on the landscape, the agency can focus treatment efforts to make watersheds more resilient to natural threats.

From FY 2012 to FY 2016, the agency completed the necessary work to improve the condition of 71 watersheds. The agency continues to accelerate accomplishments in this arena, more than doubling the number of watersheds improved in FY 2016 from what the agency accomplished as recently as FY 2014. The agency has ongoing restoration work underway in over 150 other priority watersheds. During FY 2016, the IRR pilot regions improved 8 of the 21 total watersheds that was moved to an improved condition class. As an outcome measure, the annual result is not only reflective of work implemented this year, but represents the culmination of integrated, watershed-based work that began when the agency developed watershed restoration action plans. As the agency continues to gain experience working under the Working Capital Fund, it is apparent that it may take us 5-10 years to complete all the restoration actions under some watershed plans instead of the 3-5 years originally envisioned, due to complexity, cost, and other restoration priorities.

The Forest Service is seeing an increased ability to achieve outcomes at a larger scale by working in a more integrated manner. Strong performance across all regions drove FY 2016 results, with the agency achieving a four percent increase over FY 2014 in acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience. This measure is important because, as a composite of a number of activities across the landscape, it reflects restoration progress throughout the agency. Integrated work in the IRR regions and a sustained focus on restoration work across the Forest Service contributed to this result.

Stream restoration work directly affects habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive aquatic species, as well as for native fishes with commercial and non-commercial value, and for desired non-native species important to recreational fishing. For the third year in a row, the Forest Service took advantage of integrated planning and the effective use of partnerships to exceed our goal. The agency plan many fisheries and aquatic restoration projects in collaboration with partners in a more integrated manner at a broader landscape scale. Stream restoration projects, many of them benefitting a large number of stream miles at once through invasive species removal or re-opening

access to historically occupied habitat, often require longer planning cycles. Once planning is complete, project implementation occurs within a short timeframe based on funding availability and partner readiness. The increased accomplishments are a result of these collaborative planning efforts in previous years coming on line for implementation and our partners rallying their resources to help finance the accomplishments. The cumulative accomplishments associated with this measure are critical to our threatened, endangered, and sensitive aquatic species restoration.

Strategic Objective E: Strengthen Communities

Strategic Performance Goal: The agency will continue to achieve mandatory Procurement Preference Goals annually, ensuring a significant portion of the agency's contracted work is awarded to small, minority-owned, veteran-owned, or other disadvantaged business category.

Overview

With over \$1.2 billion expended on contracts annually, the Forest Service has a responsibility to foster growth in the small businesses that strengthen communities and assist us in delivering on our mission. The agency accomplishes this by setting aside contract actions for small business concerns.⁵

By contracting with small businesses, Forest Service contributes to a strong economy, job creation, and greater partnerships between our agency and the communities surrounding the national forests and grasslands.

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator Prime Contracting – Business Type	FY2016					
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Forest Service Target	Actual
Small Business	82.1%	80.6%	84.1%	80.5%	72%	82.0%
Small Disadvantaged Business	230.9%	16.3	19.2%	19.4%	17%	19.1%
Woman-Owned Business	13.3%	15.9%	17.9%	17.5%	9%	14.4%
Historically Underutilized Business Zone	10.0%	10.3%	9.4%	8.1%	10%	7.00%
Service-Disabled Veteran- Owned Small Business	3.9%	2.8%	3.4%	3.6%	4%	3.60%

Supporting Performance Indicators

Achievement of procurement preference goals is the primary indicator of our success in awarding as many contract actions to small business concerns as possible. Other non-measurable indicators include increased awareness by small businesses of opportunities to contract with the government, achieved through agency participation in national and local small business events, and our increased use of electronic media to share contracting opportunities with a wider audience.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

While the Forest Service clearly has a great impact on strengthening communities across the Nation, the agency is still developing the measure it will ultimately use to evaluate progress towards this strategic objective. The agency will continue to refine potential measures of success until the agency identifies which set will best reflect progress toward strengthening communities. The Forest Service has been, and remains committed to, strengthening

⁵A small-business concern is "one that is independently owned and operated, is organized for profit, and is not dominant in its field." "What Is SBA's Definition of a Small Business Concern?" U.S. Small Business Administration, N.p., n.d. Web. 11 Dec. 2014.

communities through contracting with small businesses. The Forest Service routinely meets, and generally exceeds, most of its goals. As an example, the FY 2015 small business goal for the Forest Service was 72 percent, but the agency was able to award over 82 percent of its FY 2016 contracting funds to small business concerns.

The Forest Service will continue to seek support from small business concerns first, and strive to strengthen communities through these actions and in many other ways. Rural forests and urban trees provide ecological, economic, and social benefits to communities of all size. As an example, in FY 2014 the agency estimated that the monetary value from recreation for all goods and services adds slightly more than \$10 billion to the gross domestic product (GDP), and sustained about 143,000 full- and part-time jobs. In FY 2011, all Forest Service activities combined contributed to nearly 450,000 jobs nationwide, mostly to rural communities near the national forests and grasslands. The agency also convene partnerships and collaborations between State and local governments, academic institutions, and the private sector, helping to strengthen relationships between many groups in a community around natural resources, thereby reinforcing community bonds and fostering shared community prosperity.

Strategic Objective F: Connect People to the Outdoors

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, increase the percent of people engaging in meaningful outdoor experiences by six percent from 2014.

Overview

The Nation's rich history reveals the vital role the outdoors has played in defining the people and the country. From lakes and rivers to forests and mountains, the outdoors is a place for Americans to create lasting memories and serves as a conduit for economic growth and job development. The outdoor industry supports 6.1 million American jobs and \$646 billion in outdoor recreation spending each year. Spending time in nature benefits physical and mental health, academic performance, and overall quality of life. Research has shown that childhood activities in natural environments have a significant, positive association with adult environmental attitudes and behaviors.

However, there is an increasing disconnect between nature and people, especially children, in America today. Today's more urbanized youth spend 50 percent less time in natural areas than youth did 20 years ago. Additionally, the shift toward sedentary lifestyles is a major contributor to the decline in children's health. Over the past three decades, childhood obesity rates have tripled. Opportunities for youth to engage with nature improve advanced motor fitness, and enhance powers of observation and creativity.

The Forest Service is working to help foster a Nation of citizen stewards committed to restoring forest health—from backcountry areas to shaded urban neighborhoods, parks, and greenways—to ensure that stewards sustain the public and private forests and that the forests remain relevant to future generations.

Key Performance Indicators					FY 2016	
Indicators	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Target	Actual
Number of visits where people are satisfied with NFS facilities, services, and settings	155,440,300	151,210,400	143,727,700	139,074,400	N/A*	141,390,700
Number of people who annually participate in Forest Service environmental literacy programs and activities	6,878,710	4,562,348	6,808,901	7,459,632	N/A*	8,164,586
Number of volunteers and service participants caring for the land and serving people	107,797	103,159	109,800	100,146	100,000	104,320

*The agency does not set targets for this indicator but uses the measure to inform program decisions.

While the Forest Service measures a number of important indicators that help assess progress towards the 2020 Goal, the agency is working to develop methods to assess meaningful connections to ensure that the agency is engaging citizens in ways that will be sustainable into the future. While the Forest Service does not track the number of satisfied visitors each year, the agency does not set a national target, and instead use the information to help identify trends and public demand. The agency recently upgraded the national database used to record educational and outreach activities. Increases in 2014 and 2015 indicators may represent improved reporting rather than increased contacts. These numbers provide an index of the agency's outreach and education efforts, and future reporting will reflect more accurately the number of people reached through these efforts

Supporting Performance Indicators

The Forest Service offers high-quality interpretative experiences on NFS lands from informative displays at trailhead lodges to ranger-led hikes, to community service days. The most recent analysis of the latest National Visitor Use Monitoring Survey results estimates that nearly 149 million visitors recreated on NFS lands in FY 2014. This equates to an estimated recreation contribution of approximately \$10 billion and 143,000 jobs to local economies.⁶

The Discover the Forest campaign has an extensive audience reach. Since the campaign's launch in 2009, it has received \$399.9 million in donated media across several mediums, including TV, radio, OOH (out of home advertising) and digital. Among the Discover the Forest campaign target audience (parents of tweens 8-12), recognition of the website URL DiscoverTheForest.org has grown significantly since the campaign launched, from 3 percent in June 2011 to a monthly median of 20 percent between October 2014 and May 2015. In the first quarter of 2016, 47 percent of respondents said they took their children to a forest or park at least two times per month, up from 33 percent in the quarter of 2014. Since its inception, the campaign has partnered with four major movie studios utilizing movie characters from Shrek, The Lorax, Smurfs 2, and Rio 2, and developed campaigns aimed to reach general market, Hispanic, parents of girls, African-American, and urban parents of kids aged 7-12. In FY16, the campaign partnered with critically acclaimed film Kubo and the Two Strings to launch creative assets in support of the Discover the Forest message. The campaign also was selected by Facebook to receive over \$300K in targeted donated media across the Facebook and Instagram platforms.

Today more than ever, the public receives its information digitally, primarily via mobile devices. The agency worked across disciplines and boundaries to improve public access to real-time recreation data. The agency implemented initial steps towards a single, unified recreation database to support high-quality recreation data, and which will improve the information available through Recreation.gov and other social media and web-based applications that facilitate outdoor recreation. The Interactive Visitor Map 2.0 released in June 2016, and has been averaging 25,000 page views per month. The map presents authoritative roads, trails, and recreation site information and provides visitors with trip-planning information for recreational opportunities available on the national forests, grasslands and other areas. The new map version improves access to the recreation information through an innovative and practical web site that functions well on desktops and mobile devices.

In support of its goal to advance winter recreation activities, the agency published the final Over-Snow Vehicles rule, Part C of the Travel Management Rule, a policy that sets principles for consistent field implementation. The new rule expands winter recreation opportunities for the public and provides additional economic benefits for communities, while ensuring natural resource protection.

Our 21st Century Service Corps (21CSC) partnership provides an enormous return on investment, allowing the Forest Service to address critical conservation restoration needs and simultaneously have a deep and lasting impact on the people who participate, thereby building the next generation of natural resource professionals. From FY 2014 through FY 2016, the agency has employed 30,000 youth and veterans on more than 2,000 distinct projects; expanded YCC jobs by 58 percent to 1,500 in FY 2016; implemented a Resource Assistants Program for students, recent graduates and others that is building a diverse pool of qualified and experienced candidates for permanent positions; and orchestrated growth in the 21CSC organization, recognizing and approving 201 partner organizations.

⁶ National Visitor Use Monitoring Survey Results, USDA Forest Service National Summary Report, <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/nvum/>

Strategic Objective Progress Update

The Forest Service has undertaken a focused effort in recent years to better connect citizens, especially youth, to the national forests and grasslands, and their natural heritage nationwide. In 2016, the agency has continued to focus on the 2015 Forest Service Integrated Strategy for Youth. This document provides a cohesive vision of what the agency strives to achieve through our youth engagement efforts.

In this increasingly diverse, urbanized, and technology-focused world, the agency needs to work harder to connect citizens to the outdoors and to meet them where they are—in communities, in schools, and through new media. Forest Service outreach programs that effectively use new media, including Discover the Forest, with a strong social media component on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr, encourage parents and families to go outdoors and discover the forest. This program also includes a Spanish language component, an education program completely based on internet outreach, and a series of special outreach PSAs in Spanish to reach America's Latino population with information and resources about the natural environment. These are 21st Century challenges and this strategic performance goal will help us to develop tools to meet that challenge to ensure the Nation's forests and grasslands are sustained into the future.

Strategic Goal: Apply Knowledge Globally

Through intellectual inquiry and knowledge transfer, the Forest Service provides land managers and other partners with enhanced information, applications, and tools for improved resource management and decision-making. The agency is constantly improving our knowledge of complex environmental processes, biological and physical conditions, resource uses, human and social dimensions, the economic value of the resources the agency manages, and the interconnectivity among these elements. To benefit from global knowledge, the agency interacts and share knowledge with partners worldwide. The transfer of knowledge, technology, and applications will help the global natural resource community make better management decisions in the collective effort to care for all lands and deliver sustainable benefits to people.

Strategic Objective G: Advance Knowledge

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, increase the external use of Forest Service-based knowledge products by 5 percent from FY 2014 levels.

Overview

Forest Service research provides land managers and others with information, applications, and tools for improved resource management and decision-making. Scientific research helps advance knowledge about complex environmental processes, biological and physical conditions, resource uses, human and social dimension, the economic value of natural resources, and the interconnections among these elements. From natural resource management to long-term strategic policy development, our efforts to sustain forest and grasslands now and into the future depend on new knowledge, information, and applications.

Key Performance Indicators

Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	
					Target	Actual
FIA – percent of States with FIA data available	92%	96%	98%	98%	98%	98%

The Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) indicator measures the thoroughness with which the Forest Service quantifies the Nation's resources. The FIA program inventories the status and trends in tree species, size, and health; forest area and location; tree growth, mortality, and removal by harvest; wood production and utilization; and forest land ownership. The FIA assessments extend to the trust territories and Puerto Rico and include reports on changes in carbon budgets and forest health.

Supporting Performance Indicators

In order for external partners and organizations to use Forest Service-based knowledge products with confidence, the agency consistently produces high-quality products. Formally and informally refereed publications are the primary means by which Forest Service research communicates the scientific basis for land management and policy decisions. These publications go through a peer review process to ensure quality and relevance. During FY 2016, Forest Service research scientists⁷ published 2,022 documents that passed the peer review evaluation for quality and relevance. In addition, research scientists produced 319 science delivery products and 2,744 science delivery activities.^{7,8}

Wildland fire and fuels research provides the knowledge and tools needed to help reduce the negative impacts—and enhance the beneficial effects of—fire and fuels on society and the environment, while protecting lives and property. The fire science indices measure the rate at which our scientists publish peer-reviewed products specifically on fire science, and serve as an index of the progress toward advancing knowledge in fire science. The Quality Science Index for fire is a measure of the annual refereed publication rate per fire scientist per year and was 4.9 for 2016. To put this in context, the target for this metric was 4.5, and the values for FY 2011 through 2015 ranged from 4 to 5.2. The Output Efficiency Index for fire is a measure of the annual publication rate per fire scientist, and was 4.2 in FY 2016. The target for that measure was three and the values for this metric ranged between 3 and 3.5 for FY 2011 through 2015.

Fire and Aviation Management is an integral partner with the wildland fire and fuels Research and Development program, and actively supports alignment of research, development, and application strategies and products with national outcomes focused on resilient landscapes, human communities, and safe and effective wildfire response. Examples include development of new safety zone guidelines for firefighters, implementing regional risk assessments in the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, and ensuring science-based wildland fire management through two research, development, and application centers and the National Center for Decision Support. The 2014 Wildland Fire Management Annual Report includes results of this partnership.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

National, State, and local policy makers, universities, businesses, Tribal governments, national forests and grasslands, other natural resource agencies, interest groups, and many others depend on models, information and data for timely, scientific credible assessments about U.S. forests. The FIA program collects, analyzes, and reports on the status and trends of America's forests, such as how much forest exists, where it exists, who owns it, and how it is changing. The agency derives many benefits from FIA information, including supporting planning and ecosystem management practices, monitoring forest health, providing the basis for decision-making activities undertaken by public and private enterprises, and anticipating weather related impacts to forests. The Forest Service supports the creation of better tools for making the FIA data easier to access, and to help the public get what they need from the databases. For example, the agency created an online tool called "EVALIDator" that summarizes inventory data on the FIA website, and is accessible to the public.

Strategic Objective H: Transfer Technology and Applications

Strategic Performance Goal: By 2020, 90 percent of all enterprise Forest Service datasets designated for public consumption are externally available to the public as downloadable files, map services, applications, or APIs.

Overview

The Forest Service has made significant strides in transferring technology and applications by making datasets available as part of its commitment to OMB's Open Data Policy. The agency works across business and technology user groups to inventory datasets managed by agency program areas, and to prioritize the datasets most useful to the

⁷ Science Delivery Products: Number of products developed to enhance the usefulness of scientific information that have not been published in formally or informally refereed outlets, regardless of durable delivery format, that are delivered to clients in clear and accessible formats.

⁸ Science Delivery Activities: Number of activities undertaken to enhance the usefulness of scientific information that are delivered to clients in clear and accessible formats.

public.

Once additional data sets are identified for public consumption the Forest Service ensures data is standardized, authoritative, securely interfaced, and effectively maintained and updated before publishing through data.gov. Our goal is to make data available and accessible to users and integrate data sets into our business systems to provide real-time analysis and updates.

Key Performance Indicators

The key performance indicators for this goal are the number of datasets available within Data.Gov, and increased availability for interested organization to search datasets. The Forest Service has chartered the Information Management Advisory Board (IMAB) to begin tracking publically available data sets and incorporate enterprise governance processes to ensure data standards are met and identified information for the public is accurate and secure.

Key Performance Indicators					FY 2016	
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Target	Actual
Datasets Registered with Data.gov	-	1	2	2	2	2
Map Services Registered with Data.gov	-	5	51	68	86	86
API Registered with Data.gov	-	-	51	68	86	86
Applications Registered with Data.gov	-	-	0	0	0	0

Strategic Objective Progress Update

The Forest Service CIO will maintain the Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) as a repository for datasets; map and web servers to publish map services and other APIs; and an external website for hosting datasets that the agency will make available to the public as downloadable files. Currently, the Forest Service has many sites from which data can be disseminated, but with exception to EDW, has no agency-wide view or summary, nor information on the data quality for most sites. In FY 2017 prioritized identification of enterprise data for data.gov dissemination will be a priority. The agency will also address a number of management challenges including insufficient resources to collect, edit, and quality control all data and insufficient support resources for governance and dissemination.

Strategic Objective I: Exchange Natural Resource Expertise

Strategic Performance Goal: Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center students graduate with job placements at or above the Department of Labor national average.

Overview

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) contracts with the Forest Service to operate 26 Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers (Job Corps Centers). These centers span 22 national forests and grasslands in 17 States, with a capacity to educate and train over 5,000 enrollees. The DOL provides oversight and funding to the Job Corps Program, which is a free Federal career technical training and education program for income-eligible young adults age 16 through 24. The goal of Job Corps is to teach job and social skills to disadvantaged young adults to help them obtain education and training, find good-paying jobs, and become independent. The program includes housing, food, basic health care, and living allowances. In addition, it provides students transition counseling, job search assistance and referrals, and follow-up services after they graduate. The maximum duration per person in the Job Corps program is two years, averaging eight to twelve months.

With employment training that supports Forest Service needs, including wildland firefighting and hazardous fuels reduction, watershed protection, recreation, forestry, and facilities maintenance. Job Corps Centers have a long-standing history instilling a conservation ethos and serving rural America. Integrated with the Forest Service, Job Corps advances the legacy of public land conservation, creates opportunities to connect youth with nature, and provides training and employment opportunities that support economic development for individuals and local communities. Today, Job Corps Centers are continuing the tradition of protecting Americans' natural heritage, and providing programs of work-based learning to conserve, develop, manage, and enhance public lands.

Key Performance Indicators					FY 2016	
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Target	Actual
JCCCC Percent Placement Rate	82%	82%	87%	84%	90%	85%

Supporting Performance Indicators

Job Corps students volunteer their time as part of their training programs, thereby giving students the opportunity to exchange and apply what they are learning in the classroom. The students also contribute to National wildland fire suppression efforts by providing camp crews and Type II fire crews, composed of students who have earned certification as wildland firefighters. In 2016, the Job Corps Fire Program trained and red-carded 1,100 Job Corps students as firefighters, camp crew members, or administrative support personnel. Upon successful completion of the Job Corps Fire Program requirements, students are able to compete for permanent or seasonal appointments or for hiring under the Public Lands Corps authority. The Job Corps Fire Program training in Program Year 2015 resulted in hiring 44 Job Corps students into permanent fire positions (Federal, State and County agencies).

The Schenck Job Corps Advanced Fire program maintains a standing initial attack crew. This cadre supplements and exchanges the education and skills they develop in their Job Corps program with experience in wildland firefighting, a discipline that relies on natural resource expertise across multiple agencies and jurisdictions. Aside from placing graduates in land management agencies, Job Corps supported the exchange of natural resource expertise through the 3,100 volunteer students who participated and contributed to public lands projects and fire incidents.

Strategic Objective Progress Update

In FY 2016, the agency had a goal that students would graduate with job placements at or above the DOL national average. The agency used the Public Lands Corps and Pathways authorities to increase our placement rates for Job Corps graduates within the USDA and the Department of the Interior (DOI). By placing Forest Service Job Corps graduates in land management bureaus within DOI, the agency is fostering cross-Department knowledge and experience in natural resource management. The Forest Service is implementing a priority hiring emphasis in the disciplines of fire, recreation management, wilderness management, and engineering. These programs will provide increased placement opportunities for students in Federal land management agencies, who will be well poised to exchange their knowledge and experience in natural resource management across departments and agencies. During FY 2016, 3,100 Forest Service Job Corps students contributed thousands of volunteer hours on the nation's public lands. These hours translate into \$7 million in value. The top three Job Corps student volunteer activities were fire prevention, facilities construction, and recreation maintenance/construction maintenance.

Management Goal: Excel as a High-Performing Agency

The Forest Service is committed to excelling as a high performing agency that promotes an inclusive culture and retains a top workforce. The FY 2015 – FY 2020 Strategic Plan includes a Management Goal that lays out our vision for fostering a diverse, inclusive, and engaged workforce. While the agency is assessing the best performance measures to evaluate success, the agency will focus on several key areas for improvement. To transform the organizational culture, the agency is focusing on seven critical areas: leadership development, employee development, talent management, recruitment and retention, customer focus, community outreach, and process improvement. An agency culture that fosters diversity and encourages new perspectives will strengthen our ability to

meet public expectations. By joining people with diverse perspectives, the Forest Service will find new solutions to complex management challenges, and will make better-informed natural resource decisions.

One way the agency will measure the effectiveness of operations over the next five years is by improving the retention rate. The agency is improving the work environment, and focusing leadership efforts on translating the results of the Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey into actionable items that will address employee concerns. Forest Service is improving leadership communication and increasing engagement with employees, creating and fostering skills in leaders, supervisors, and managers to address work environment issues, and developing leadership competencies. The agency long-term goal is to ensure Forest Service employees are valued and respected for their diverse talents, ideas, backgrounds, and abilities. This will ensure they are well-positioned to serve the public into the future. This includes making new connections with diverse members of the public to increase awareness of – and access to – the Forest Service.

Optimize Organizational Capacity – Crosscutting Responsibilities

The Forest Service's ability to fulfill its mission depends on having an optimal organizational capacity. This section addresses how the agency will measure effectiveness for crosscutting measures. The desired outcome is to provide an effective and efficient business foundation for the agency that helps us to achieve the mission. The agency provides a critical business infrastructure that maintains efficient, consistent, and continuous operations of all agency business programs, functions, and processes. In FY 2016, Human Resource Management held a total of eleven Workforce Planning and Hiring Engagement Sessions, one per Region/Station/Area. The sessions, conducted annually, are forums for senior leaders, hiring managers, planners, administrators, and workforce planning practitioners throughout the agency to engage in discussions centered on strategic workforce planning.

The Forest Service offers several key retention programs to employees: mentoring, wellness, and telework and flexible work schedules. Other than retention incentive bonuses, which affect few employees (46 employees in FY 2016), there is not a direct way to measure the number of employees the agency retains. While it is feasible to measure the numbers of employees who are hired and lost, it is difficult to account for the movement of employees across regions, stations and areas.

Mentoring provides employees with challenging opportunities to form new connections, broaden their experience, and cultivate new skills. The Forest Service Mentoring Program benefits employees and the agency by strengthening the workforce to ensure a steady pool of talented, skilled, and motivated employees to serve as future leaders. Mentorship is an excellent way to transfer institutional knowledge and to enhance employee skills.

The Forest Service implemented a phased retirement program pilot. Phased Retirement is a workforce planning tool that allows qualified employees, with management approval, to work part-time and collect half of their Federal Retirement Annuity simultaneously. The goal of the program is to allow eligible employees to transition corporate knowledge to the workforce while they themselves transition into retirement. While participating, the employee works a half-time schedule and draws half of their retirement annuity. At the end of their phased retirement agreement, the employee enters full retirement. The pilot program began in April 2016 and currently there are seven employees participating in the program with six more employees working through the process to participate.

The Forest Service Office of Occupational Health and Safety provides a number of resources on health and well-being. One of the most popular programs is the allowance of time for fitness participation. Other programs include the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), accident investigation, Workplace Violence Prevention, and the lactation program.

Depending on the type of position, many Forest Service employees participate in Alternative Work Schedule (AWS) programs, which can enable managers and supervisors to meet their program goals while allowing employees more flexibility in scheduling their personal activities. As employees gain greater control over their time, they can balance work and family responsibilities more easily, become involved in volunteer activities, and take advantage of educational opportunities.

Telework provides Forest Service employees the opportunity to telework up to full-time and including at the employee's home or another alternative work site. The objective of this program is to maintain and improve our efficiency in meeting the agency mission, reduce automobile-created air pollution and traffic congestion, reduce our carbon footprint, improve employee morale, increase productivity, and make the Forest Service an employer of choice. Telework offers an alternative to the traditional work environment that yields significant benefits to the agency and to employees. Studies show employees who telework are often more productive and generate better quality work because of the quiet environment with minimal interruptions. They avoid long commutes, thereby reducing stress levels and contributing to better health. Management can attract and retain employees in critical occupations and positions, target labor markets such as individuals with disabilities, and enable offices to conduct their work more efficiently by allowing flexibility in the workplace. The Telework program is an excellent way to attract individuals with disability and limited mobility. Technological advances enable managers to offer assistive technology that accommodates an individual's impairment. Employees who are injured, recuperating, and physically limited may be able to work at home and complete work assignments while minimizing sick leave use.

The Forest Service assigns the USDA New Supervisor AgLearn training to all newly hired and newly promoted supervisors. Part of this training includes lessons on Cultural Diversity in the workplace and nondiscrimination. Training assignments will continue, as new supervisors are hired and promoted. In addition, the agency periodically assigns the USDA Experienced Supervisor training to identified experienced supervisors. These training curriculums will assist supervisors in maintaining leadership competencies and align with USDA Departmental Regulations.

The Senior Leader Program is a blended-learning leadership development program in support of the Forest Service succession planning. Leaders of the Forest Service are committed to preparing our successors, nurturing their talent and developing their leadership competencies. The program, based on the "Leaders Growing Leaders" framework, includes considerable opportunity to meet and interact with leaders at the highest level. This development opportunity offers a rich diversity of learning experiences in residential, dialogue, distance learning, group and self-directed activities. This session is for high performing, highly motivated individuals who want to accelerate their leadership competencies, learn how to be champions of employee engagement for diversity, inclusion, safety, and to learn and perfect skills that will help face the future challenges of USDA Forest Service.

In FY 2016, the Forest Service offered eight regional sessions of the National Middle Leader Program. The program is dynamic, cost effective, embraces generational differences and meets the Forest Services' needs now and in the future. It focuses on the competencies most critical for development at the middle leader level. The course objectives are to encourage life-long learning, encourage self-management and personal discovery and provide participants with a consistent and nationwide access to a standard curriculum, coaching, and career stretching experiences.

The agency will continue to implement our Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans under the requirements established by the National Security 51 (NSPD-51), Homeland Security Presidential Directive 20 (HSPD-20), National Continuity Policy Implementation Plan, Federal Continuity Directive 1 (FCD 1), and Continuity Guidance Circular 1 (CGC 1). These directives ensure that the agency continues to perform Mission Essential Functions (MEFs) during a wide range of emergencies, including localized acts of nature, accidents, and technological or attack-related emergencies. These MEFs directly support the eight National Essential Functions (NEFs) that represent the overarching responsibilities of the Federal Government to lead and sustain the Nation, and will be the primary focus of the Federal Government's leadership during and in the aftermath of an emergency.

External Audits and Reviews

FY 2016 Office of Inspector General (OIG) Audits on the Forest Service: OIG Open Audits

Audit Number	Audit Title	Report Issue Date	Audit Status
08601-02-41	Firefighting Cost-Share Agreements with Non-Federal Entities	01/08/2016	Closure requests submitted to OCFO for 7 of 8 recommendations. Recommendation 8 is due June 2017.
08601-04-41	FS Wildland Fire Activities-Hazardous Fuels Reduction	08/16/2016	Implementation of corrective actions in progress.

OIG Audits Officially Closed in FY 2016

Audit Number	Audit Title	Report Issue Date	Closure Date
08601-01-CH	Rights-of Way and Easements	04/30/2012	03/23/2016
08601-01-31	Oversight and Compliance Audit	03/24/2015	08/05/2016
08601-03-31	Controls over the Stewardship Contracting Process for Land Management of National Forests	09/30/2015	08/11/2016
08601-55-SF	Administration of Special Uses	07/07/2011	09/13/2016

Summary of OIG Audits

OIG Audit Summary Status	Number
FY 2016 Beginning Inventory	4
Audits added	2
Subtotal	6
Audits closed	4
FY 2016 Ending Inventory	2

FY 2016 Government Accountability Office Audits

Audit Report Number	Audit Title	Report Issue Date	Audit Status
GAO-16-44	Excess Personal Property: DOD Should Further Reassess the Priorities of Its Disposal Process	1/29/2016	No recommendations. No further actions required.
GAO-16-165	Hardrock Mining: BLM and Forest Service Have Taken Some Actions to Expedite the Mine Plan Review Process but Could Do More	2/22/2016	Implementation of corrective actions in progress.
GAO-16-456	Tongass National Forest: Forest Service's Actions Related to Its Planned Timber Program Transition	4/25/2016	No recommendations. No further actions required.
GAO-16-559	Unauthorized Grazing: Actions Needed to Improve Tracking and Deterrence Efforts	7/7/2016	Implementation of corrective actions in progress.
GAO-16-699	Advanced Technologies: Strengthened Federal Approach Needed to Help Identify and Mitigate Supply Risks for Critical Raw Materials	9/7/2016	No recommendations. No further actions required.

Management Challenges

The OIG issues its annual report to the Secretary on the most serious management challenges that USDA and its agencies face on August 26, 2016. To identify these challenges, the OIG examined issued audit reports with recommendations where agencies have yet to take corrective actions, assessed ongoing investigative and audit work to ascertain significant vulnerabilities, and analyzed new programs and activities that could pose significant challenges due to their range and complexity. This year, the report did not include challenges specific to the Forest Service so a formal action plan was not required.

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Appropriations Language Changes

Title III Related Agencies Department of Agriculture

Appropriations Language uses the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, (P.L. 114-113) as the baseline. Material proposed for deletion is enclosed in brackets; new language is underscored.

FOREST SERVICE

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

1. For necessary expenses of forest and rangeland research as authorized by law, [~~\$291,000,000~~]\$259,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That of the funds provided, [~~\$75,000,000~~]\$77,000,000 is for the forest inventory and analysis program.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

For necessary expenses of cooperating with and providing technical and financial assistance to States, territories, possessions, and others, and for forest health management, including treatments of pests, pathogens, and invasive or noxious plants and for restoring and rehabilitating forests damaged by pests or invasive plants, cooperative forestry, and education and land conservation activities and conducting an international program as authorized, [~~\$237,023,000~~]\$118,010,000, to remain available until expended, as authorized by law[; of which \$62,347,000 is to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund].

- 1.

Note 1: Deletes reference to Forest Legacy Program since no funds are requested.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, for management, protection, improvement, and utilization of the National Forest System, and for hazardous fuels management on or

1. adjacent to such lands, [~~\$1,509,364,000~~]\$1,747,442,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*,
2. [That of the funds provided, \$40,000,000 shall be deposited in the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund for ecological restoration treatments as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 7303(f): *Provided further,*] That of the funds provided, up to \$162,000,000 may be [transferred] used to support the
3. Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program for Region 1, Region 3 and Region 4: *Provided further,* That of the funds provided [~~\$359,805,000~~]\$359,121,000 shall be for forest products: *Provided further,* That of the funds provided, \$354,288,000 shall be for hazardous fuels management activities, of which not to exceed \$15,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the "State and Private Forestry" appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of biomass from National Forest System lands: *Provided further,* That of the funds provided, up to [\$81,941,000] \$15,000,000 [is for the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program for Region 1, Region 3 and Region 4: *Provided further,* That of the funds provided for forest products, up to \$65,560,000 may be transferred to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program in the preceding proviso: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Agriculture may transfer to the Secretary of the Interior any unobligated funds appropriated in a previous fiscal year for operation of the Valles Caldera National Preserve] may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into procurement contracts or cooperative agreements or to issue grants for hazardous fuels management activities, and for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels management activities on Federal land, or on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities benefit resources on Federal land. In addition,
4. \$4,500,000, to remain available until expended, from communication site rental fees established by the Forest Service for the cost of administering communication site activities.

Note 1: Provides funding for the Hazardous Fuels Program (moved from Wildland Fire Management).

Note 2: Deletes reference to Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration since no funds are requested.

Note 3: Indicates total funding for the Integrated Resource Restoration Program instead of funding by contributing budget line item.

Note 4: Language added to reflect proposed legislation for communication site fee retention,

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

For necessary expenses of the Forest Service, not otherwise provided for, [\$364,164,000]\$99,693,000, to remain available until expended, for construction, capital improvement, maintenance and acquisition of buildings and other facilities and infrastructure; and for construction, reconstruction, decommissioning of roads that are no longer needed, including unauthorized roads that are not part of the transportation system, and maintenance of forest roads and trails by the Forest Service as authorized by 16 U.S.C. 532–538 and 23 U.S.C. 101 and 205: *Provided*, [That \$40,000,000 shall be designated for urgently needed road decommissioning, road and trail repair and maintenance and associated activities, and removal of

1. fish passage barriers, especially in areas where Forest Service roads may be contributing to water quality problems in streams and water bodies which support threatened, endangered, or sensitive species or community water sources: *Provided further*,] That funds becoming available in fiscal year [2016]2018 under the Act of March 4, 1913 (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated.[: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided for decommissioning of roads, up to \$14,743,000 may be transferred to the "National Forest System" to support the Integrated Resource
2. Restoration pilot program.]

Note 1: Deletes reference to Legacy Roads and Trails since no funds are requested.

Note 2: Deletes reference to Integrated Resource Restoration program since no Legacy Roads and Trails funds are requested.

LAND ACQUISITION

For expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of chapter 2003 of title 54, United States Code,

1. including administrative expenses, and for acquisition of land or waters, or interest therein, in accordance with statutory authority applicable to the Forest Service, [\$63,435,000]\$7,000,000, to be derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to remain available until expended.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS SPECIAL ACTS

For acquisition of lands within the exterior boundaries of the Cache, Uinta, and Wasatch National Forests, Utah; the Toiyabe National Forest, Nevada; [and]the Angeles, San Bernardino, Sequoia, and Cleveland

1. National Forests, California; and the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests, Arkansas, as authorized by law, [\$950,000]\$850,000, to be derived from forest receipts.

Note 1: P.L. 108-350 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests. Reference to the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests was not made in past appropriations language and the intent of public law could not be realized.

ACQUISITION OF LANDS TO COMPLETE LAND EXCHANGES

1. For acquisition of lands, such sums, to be derived from funds deposited by State, county, or municipal governments, public school districts, or other public school authorities, and for authorized expenditures from funds deposited by non-Federal parties pursuant to Land Sale and Exchange Acts, pursuant to the Act of December 4, 1967 (16 U.S.C. 484a), to remain available until expended (16 U.S.C. 516–617a, 555a; Public Law 96–586; Public Law 76–589, 76–591; and Public Law 78–310).

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

RANGE BETTERMENT FUND

1. For necessary expenses of range rehabilitation, protection, and improvement, 50 percent of all moneys received during the prior fiscal year, as fees for grazing domestic livestock on lands in National Forests in

the 16 Western States, pursuant to section 401(b)(1) of Public Law 94–579, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed 6 percent shall be available for administrative expenses associated with on-the-ground range rehabilitation, protection, and improvements.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed

GIFTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS FOR FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

1. For expenses authorized by 16 U.S.C. 1643(b), \$45,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the fund established pursuant to the above Act.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL FOREST LANDS FOR SUBSISTENCE USES

1. For necessary expenses of the Forest Service to manage Federal lands in Alaska for subsistence uses under title VIII of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (Public Law 96–487), [\$2,500,000]\$2,225,000, to remain available until expended.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for forest fire presuppression activities on National Forest System lands, for emergency wildland fire suppression on or adjacent to such lands or other lands under fire protection

1. agreement,[hazardous fuels management on or adjacent to such lands,] emergency rehabilitation of burned-over National Forest System lands and water, and for State and volunteer fire assistance, [\$2,386,329,000]\$2,495,038,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That such funds including unobligated balances under this heading, are available for repayment of advances from other appropriations accounts previously transferred for such purposes: *Provided further*, That any unobligated funds appropriated in a previous fiscal year for hazardous fuels management may be transferred to the
2. “National Forest System” account: *Provided further*, That such funds shall be available to reimburse State and other cooperating entities for services provided in response to wildfire and other emergencies or disasters to the extent such reimbursements by the Forest Service for non-fire emergencies are fully repaid by the responsible emergency management agency: [*Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, \$6,914,000 of funds appropriated under this appropriation shall be available for the Forest Service in support of fire science research authorized by the Joint Fire Science Program,
3. including all Forest Service authorities for the use of funds, such as contracts, grants, research joint venture agreements, and cooperative agreements: *Provided further*, That all authorities for the use of funds, including the use of contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements, available to execute the Forest and Rangeland Research appropriation, are also available in the utilization of these funds for Fire Science Research: *Provided further*, That funds provided shall be available for emergency rehabilitation and restoration, hazardous fuels management activities, support to Federal emergency response, and wildfire suppression activities of the Forest Service:]*Provided further*, That of the funds provided, [\$375,000,000 is for hazardous fuels management activities, [\$19,795,000]\$17,600,000 is for research activities and to make competitive research grants pursuant to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act, (16 U.S.C. 1641 et seq.), [\$78,000,000]\$69,400,000 is for State fire assistance, and [\$13,000,000]\$11,600,000 is for volunteer fire assistance under section 10 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2106): *Provided further*, That amounts in this paragraph may be transferred to the [“National Forest System”, and] “Forest and Rangeland Research” [accounts] account to fund forest and rangeland research[, the Joint Fire Science Program, vegetation and watershed management, heritage site rehabilitation, and wildlife and fish habitat management and restoration]: *Provided further*, That the costs of implementing any cooperative agreement between the Federal Government and any non-Federal entity may be shared, as mutually agreed on by the affected parties:[*Provided further*, That up to \$15,000,000 of the funds provided herein may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into procurement contracts or cooperative agreements or to issue grants for hazardous fuels management activities and for training or monitoring associated with such hazardous fuels management activities on Federal land or on non-Federal land if the Secretary determines such activities

benefit resources on Federal land:] *Provided further*, That funds made available to implement the Community Forest Restoration Act, Public Law 106–393, title VI, shall be available for use on non-Federal lands in accordance with authorities made available to the Forest Service under the "State and Private Forestry" appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may authorize the transfer of funds appropriated for wildland fire management, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$50,000,000, between the Departments when such transfers would facilitate and expedite wildland fire management programs and projects: [*Provided further*, That of the funds provided for hazardous fuels management, not to exceed \$15,000,000 may be used to make grants, using any authorities available to the Forest Service under the "State and Private Forestry" appropriation, for the purpose of creating incentives for increased use of biomass from National Forest System lands:]*Provided further*, That funds designated for wildfire suppression[, including funds transferred from the

4. "FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund"], shall be assessed for cost pools on the same basis as such assessments are calculated against other agency programs[: *Provided further*, That of the funds for hazardous fuels management, up to \$24,000,000 may be transferred to the "National Forest System" to support the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot program].

Note 1: Hazardous Fuels program was moved to the National Forest System since all hazardous fuels work occurs on National Forest System Lands.

Note 2: Allows for the transfer of unobligated Hazardous Fuels funds to the National Forest System.

Note 3: Deletes reference to the Joint Fire Science Program since no funds are requested.

Note 4: Deletes reference to FLAME since no funds are requested.

FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION RESERVE FUND (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

1. [For necessary expenses for large fire suppression operations of the Department of Agriculture and as a reserve fund for suppression and Federal emergency response activities, \$823,000,000, to remain available until expended; *Provided*, That such amounts are only available for transfer to the "Wildland Fire Management" account following a declaration by the Secretary in accordance with section 502 of the FLAME Act of 2009 (43 U.S.C. 1748a).]

Note 1: Deletes reference to FLAME since no funds are requested.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS FOREST SERVICE (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

1. Appropriations to the Forest Service for the current fiscal year shall be available for: (1) purchase of passenger motor vehicles; acquisition of passenger motor vehicles from excess sources, and hire of such vehicles; purchase, lease, operation, maintenance, and acquisition of aircraft to maintain the operable fleet for use in Forest Service wildland fire programs and other Forest Service programs; notwithstanding other provisions of law, existing aircraft being replaced may be sold, with proceeds derived or trade-in value used to offset the purchase price for the replacement aircraft; (2) services pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2225, and not to exceed \$100,000 for employment under 5 U.S.C. 3109; (3) purchase, erection, and alteration of buildings and other public improvements (7 U.S.C. 2250); (4) acquisition of land, waters, and interests therein pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 428a; (5) for expenses pursuant to the Volunteers in the National Forest Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 558a, 558d, and 558a note); (6) the cost of uniforms as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; and (7) for debt collection contracts in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3718(c).

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

Any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be transferred to the Wildland Fire Management appropriation for forest firefighting, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over or damaged lands or waters under its jurisdiction, and fire preparedness due to severe burning conditions upon the Secretary's notification of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that all fire suppression funds appropriated under the [headings]heading "Wildland Fire Management[and "FLAME Wildfire

1. Suppression Reserve Fund"]will be obligated within 30 days[: *Provided*, That all funds used pursuant to this paragraph must be replenished by a supplemental appropriation which must be requested as promptly as possible].

Note 1: Deletes reference to FLAME since no funds are requested.

1. Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for assistance to or through the Agency for International Development in connection with forest and rangeland research, technical information, and assistance in foreign countries, and shall be available to support forestry and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories and possessions, including technical assistance, education and training, and cooperation with U.S., private, and international organizations. The Forest Service, acting for the International Program, may sign direct funding agreements with foreign governments and institutions as well as other domestic agencies (including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation), U.S. private sector firms, institutions and organizations to provide technical assistance and training programs overseas on forestry and rangeland management.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for expenditure or transfer to the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, for removal, preparation, and adoption of excess wild horses and burros from National Forest System lands, and for the performance of cadastral surveys to designate the boundaries of such lands.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

None of the funds made available to the Forest Service in this Act or any other Act with respect to any fiscal year shall be subject to transfer under the provisions of section 702(b) of the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944 (7 U.S.C. 2257), section 442 of Public Law 106–224 (7 U.S.C. 7772), or section 10417(b) of Public Law [107–107]107-171 (7 U.S.C. 8316(b)).

- 1.

Note 1: Deletes incorrect reference to public law.

None of the funds available to the Forest Service may be reprogrammed without the advance [approval of]notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in accordance with the reprogramming procedures contained in the explanatory statement [described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)]accompanying this Act.

- 1.

Note 1: Language deleted because it limits agency flexibility.

1. Not more than \$82,000,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund of the Department of Agriculture and not more than \$14,500,000 of funds available to the Forest Service shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture for Department Reimbursable Programs, commonly referred to as Greenbook charges. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit or limit the use of reimbursable agreements requested by the Forest Service in order to obtain services from the Department of Agriculture's National Information Technology Center and the Department of Agriculture's International Technology Service.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$5,000,000 shall be available for priority projects within the scope of the approved budget, which shall be carried out by the Youth Conservation Corps and shall be carried out under the authority of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993, Public Law 103–82, as amended by Public Lands Corps Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2005, Public Law 109–154.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Of the funds available to the Forest Service, \$4,000 is available to the Chief of the Forest Service for official reception and representation expenses.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Pursuant to sections 405(b) and 410(b) of Public Law 101–593, of the funds available to the Forest Service, up to \$3,000,000 may be advanced in a lump sum to the National Forest Foundation to aid conservation partnership projects in support of the Forest Service mission, without regard to when the Foundation incurs expenses, for projects on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That of the Federal funds made available to the Foundation, no more than \$300,000 shall be available for administrative expenses: *Provided further*, That the Foundation shall obtain, by the end of the period of Federal financial assistance, private contributions to match funds made available by the Forest Service on at least a one-for-one basis [funds made available by the Forest Service]: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or a non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Note 1: Language changed for clarity and readability.

1. Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of Public Law 98–244, up to \$3,000,000 of the funds available to the Forest Service may be advanced to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in a lump sum to aid cost-share conservation projects, without regard to when expenses are incurred, on or benefitting National Forest System lands or related to Forest Service programs: *Provided*, That such funds shall be matched on at least a one-for-one basis by the Foundation or its sub-recipients: *Provided further*, That the Foundation may transfer Federal funds to a Federal or non-Federal recipient for a project at the same rate that the recipient has obtained the non-Federal matching funds.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for interactions with and providing technical assistance to rural communities and natural resource-based businesses for sustainable rural development purposes.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Funds appropriated to the Forest Service shall be available for payments to counties within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, pursuant to section 14(c)(1) and (2), and section 16(a)(2) of Public Law 99–663.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Any funds appropriated to the Forest Service may be used to meet the non-Federal share requirement in section 502(c) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056(c)(2)).

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

1. Funds available to the Forest Service, not to exceed \$65,000,000, shall be assessed for the purpose of performing fire, administrative and other facilities maintenance and decommissioning. Such assessments

shall occur using a square foot rate charged on the same basis the agency uses to assess programs for payment of rent, utilities, and other support services.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service not to exceed \$500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations and similar [nonlitigation-related] matters unrelated to civil litigation. Future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and [the requested funding transfers] the sums requested for transfer.

1.

Note 1: Language changes are proposed to increase transparency.

1. An eligible individual who is employed in any project funded under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and administered by the Forest Service shall be considered to be a Federal employee for purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

Title IV GENERAL PROVISIONS (Including Transfers of Funds)

[RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS]

1. [SEC. 401. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available for any activity or the publication or distribution of literature that in any way tends to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which Congressional action is not complete other than to communicate to Members of Congress as described in 18 U.S.C. 1913.]

Note 1: Language deleted because it limits agency flexibility.

OBLIGATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

1. SEC. [402]~~401~~. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

Note 1: No language changes are proposed.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS

1. SEC. [407]~~406~~. The Secretary of Agriculture shall not be considered to be in violation of subparagraph 6(f)(5)(A) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5)(A)) solely because more than 15 years have passed without revision of the plan for a unit of the National Forest System. Nothing in this section exempts the Secretary from any other requirement of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.) or any other law: *Provided*, That if the Secretary is not acting expeditiously and in good faith, within the funding available, to revise a plan for a unit of the National Forest System, this section shall be void with respect to such plan and a court of proper jurisdiction may order completion of the plan on an accelerated basis.

Note 1: No language changes proposed.

PROHIBITION WITHIN NATIONAL MONUMENTS

1. SEC. [408]~~407~~. No funds provided in this Act may be expended to conduct preleasing, leasing and related activities under either the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) within the boundaries of a National Monument established pursuant to the Act of June 8, 1906 (16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.) as such boundary existed on January 20, 2001, except where such activities are allowed under the Presidential proclamation establishing such monument.

Note 1: No language changes proposed.

LIMITATION ON TAKINGS

SEC. [409]~~408~~. Unless otherwise provided herein, no funds appropriated in this Act for the acquisition of lands or interests in lands may be expended for the filing of declarations of taking or complaints in

1. condemnation without [the approval of]~~providing advance notification to~~ the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: *Provided*, That this provision shall not apply to funds appropriated to implement the Everglades National Park Protection and Expansion Act of 1989, or to funds appropriated for Federal assistance to the State of Florida to acquire lands for Everglades restoration purposes.

Note 1: Language deleted because it limits agency flexibility. Proposed language provides notification to Congress if agency uses authorities.

[TIMBER SALE REQUIREMENTS]

1. [SEC. 410. No timber sale in Alaska's Region 10 shall be advertised if the indicated rate is deficit (defined as the value of the timber is not sufficient to cover all logging and stumpage costs and provide a normal profit and risk allowance under the Forest Service's appraisal process) when appraised using a residual value appraisal. The western red cedar timber from those sales which is surplus to the needs of the domestic processors in Alaska, shall be made available to domestic processors in the contiguous 48 United States at prevailing domestic prices. All additional western red cedar volume not sold to Alaska or contiguous 48 United States domestic processors may be exported to foreign markets at the election of the timber sale holder. All Alaska yellow cedar may be sold at prevailing export prices at the election of the timber sale holder]

Note 1: Language deleted because it limits agency flexibility and creates an excessive administrative burden. Current law requires residual value appraisal and domestic use of timber.

POSTING OF REPORTS

1. SEC. [412]~~410~~. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.
 - (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—
 - (1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or
 - (2) the report contains proprietary information.
 - (c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

Note 1: No language changes proposed.

RECREATION FEE

1. SEC. 411. Section 810 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809) is amended by striking "September 30, 2018" and inserting "September 30, 2019".

Note 1: Extends authority for the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6809).

[STATUS OF BALANCES OF APPROPRIATIONS]

1. [SEC. 415. The Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, and the Indian Health Service shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of appropriations including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds in each program and activity.]

Note 1: Proposed for deletion as this creates an excessive administrative burden and duplicates existing financial reporting protocols.

CONTRACTING AUTHORITIES]

1. SEC. [421]416. Section 412 of Division E of Public Law 112–74 is amended by striking [“fiscal year 2015,”] “fiscal year 2017,” and inserting [“fiscal year 2017,”] fiscal year 2019”.

Note 1: Updates year of expiration.

EXTENSION OF GRAZING PERMITS

1. SEC. [423]418. The terms and conditions of section 325 of Public Law 108–108 (117 Stat. 1307), regarding grazing permits issued by the Forest Service on any lands not subject to administration under section 402 of the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act (43 U.S.C. 1752), shall remain in effect for fiscal year [2016]2018.

Note 1: Address concerns that, with respect to grazing permits issued by the Forest Service, the amendments of section 402 of Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1752) in the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2015 (P.L. 113-291) incorporated the authority in 325 only as it applied to grazing on National Forests in the 16 contiguous western states but not to grazing on National Grasslands and on eastern National Forests. With the addition of this section, the terms and conditions in section 325 of P.L. 108-108 would apply to grazing permits issued by the Forest Service on any National Forest System lands.

FOREST SERVICE FACILITIES REALIGNMENT AND ENHANCEMENT ACT

1. SEC 420. Section 503(f) of the Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act of 2005 (16 U.S.C. 580d note: Public Law 109-54) is amended by striking “2016” and inserting “2018”.

Note 1: Reauthorizes the Forest Service Facilities Realignment and Enhancement Act, which expired at the end of 2016.

SMALL TRACTS CONVEYANCE AUTHORITY, LAND ADJUSTMENT, PROGRAM, NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

SEC. 421 The Act of January 12, 1983 (commonly known as the Small Tracts Act (16 U.S.C. 521c – 521i)) is amended—

(1) in section 3—

1. (A) in the introductory text, by striking “\$150,000” and inserting “\$500,000”;
(B) in paragraph (2) by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;
(C) in paragraph (3), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and
(D) by adding at the end the following—
“(4) parcels of 40 acres or less which are determined by the Secretary to be physically isolated, to be inaccessible, or to have lost their National Forest character;
“(5) parcels of 10 acres or less and encumbered by permanent habitable improvements which are not eligible for conveyance under the Encroachment Category, but which are not intentional trespasses nor for which existing information would have prevented the encroachment;
“(6) parcels used as a cemetery, a landfill, or a sewage treatment plant under a special

use authorization issued by the Secretary.

(2) by adding at the end the following—

“SECTION 8. DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The net proceeds derived from any sale or exchange under paragraphs (4), (5) and (6) of section 3 shall be deposited in the fund established by Public Law 90-171 (commonly known as the “Sisk Act”) (16 U.S.C. 484a).

“(b) USE.—Amounts deposited under subsection (a) shall be available to the Secretary, without further appropriation, and shall remain available until expended for—

“(i) the acquisition of land or interests in land for administrative sites for the National Forest System in the State;

“(ii) the acquisition of land or interests in land for inclusion in the National Forest System within the State, including those which enhance recreational access opportunities.

Note 1: Increases the amount authorized to spend per parcel.

Forest and Rangeland Research

Appropriation	Forest and Rangeland Research				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest and Rangeland Research					
Annual Appropriations	\$291,000	\$290,447	\$259,000	-\$31,447	-11%
Forest and Rangeland Research Total	291,000	290,447	259,000	-31,447	-11%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	1,746	1,746	1,554	-192	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1,746	1,746	1,554	-192	-11%
Forest and Rangeland Research					
Wildland Fire & Fuels R&D	21,179	21,197	17,838	-3,359	-16%
Invasive Species R&D	33,551	33,551	28,274	-5,277	-16%
Recreation R&D	4,228	4,228	3,557	-671	-16%
Resource Management & Use	89,250	88,679	75,228	-13,451	-15%
Water, Air & Soil R&D	33,824	33,824	28,498	-5,326	-16%
Wildlife & Fish R&D	25,928	25,928	21,849	-4,079	-16%
Inventory & Monitoring R&D	83,040	83,040	83,756	716	1%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Forest and Rangeland Research			
Customer satisfaction index score for R&D	76	76	77
Number of patent applications filed (5-year rolling average)	0	12	0
Patent licenses executed on a 5 year rolling average	2	2	2
Science Delivery Products	310.0	486.0	261.0
Percent of Nation with accessible FIA data	98.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Quality Science Index - peer-reviewed fire science publications per scientist year on a 3-year rolling average	4.2	3.0	3.0
Output Efficiency Index - total fire science products per scientist year on a 3-year rolling average	4.9	4.5	4.0
Invasive species tools developed, delivered and used on a 5-year rolling average	274	190	200

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$259,000,000 for Forest and Rangeland Research (Forest Service R&D), a net decrease of \$31,447,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$1,002,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$2,439,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 192 staff years (\$290,447,000 and 1,746 staff years available in 2017). Within the FY 2018 budget request is \$77,000,000 for the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, which is an increase of \$2,142,526 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR funding level.

The FY 2018 budget request proposes the Forest Service to focus on research that supports the management of National Forest System (NFS) lands and the agency's wildland fire suppression efforts. Specific increases and decreases across the Strategic Program Areas (SPAs) include:

A decrease of \$3,359,000 for the Wildland Fire and Fuels SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$17,838,000 for air quality research including research on smoke and prescribed fire, managing social dynamics of fire in

wildland-urban interface areas, and wildfire research technology transfer efforts. Additional fire research funding is supported by the National Fire Plan Research and Development line within the Wildland Fire Management appropriation of \$17,600,000.

A decrease of \$5,277,000 for the Invasives Species SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$28,274,000 for research that provides information and technology needed to reduce or eliminate the spread or impact of invasive species. See the “Funding for Selected Insects, Diseases and Invasive Plants by Fiscal Year” table in the Forest Health Management Overview for proposed investment levels, by insect, disease, or pathogen.

A decrease of \$671,000 for the Recreation SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$3,557,000 for research on producing science and technology that natural resource managers can use to offer quality outdoor recreation experiences for current and future generations.

A decrease of \$13,451,000 for the Resource Management and Use SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$75,228,000 for research that provides the scientific and technological base to sustainably manage and use forest resources and fiber-based products.

A decrease of \$5,326,000 for the Water, Air, and Soil SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$28,498,000 for research that enables the sustainable management of water, air, and soil resources by providing information on how forests can support clean air and drinking water through improved resilience.

A decrease of \$4,079,000 for the Wildlife and Fish SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$21,849,000 for research that provides knowledge and tools to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of aquatic and terrestrial animals on the Nation’s forests and grasslands.

An increase of \$716,000 for the Inventory and Monitoring SPA. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$77,000,000 for the implementation of the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program, including full implementation of FIA sampling in interior Alaska. This funding level allows for a five-year measurement cycle in the East and a 10-year measurement cycle in the West. The FY 2018 budget request includes \$6,756,000 for the inventory and monitoring on the status and trends of the Nation’s renewable resources on all forest and rangelands, as required by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974.

Program Overview

Forest and Rangeland Research works at the forefront of science to improve the health and use of our Nation’s forests and grasslands, Forest Service R&D has been part of the Forest Service mission since the agency’s inception in 1905. Today, more than 500 Forest Service researchers work in a range of biological, physical, and social science fields to promote sustainable management of the Nation’s diverse forests and rangelands. The work has a steady focus on informing policy and land-management decisions, whether it addresses invasive insects, degraded river ecosystems, or sustainable ways to harvest forest products. The researchers work independently and with a range of partners, including other agencies, academia, nonprofit groups, and industry. The information and technology produced through basic and applied science programs is designed to meet stakeholder needs and is available to the public for its benefit and use.

Forest Service R&D has a unique authority and mandate to provide new knowledge and technologies to foster healthy watersheds, sustainable forest products, wildlife protection, outdoor recreation opportunities, robust urban ecosystems, and other benefits, across all Territories and States (including both Federal and non-Federal lands) benefiting both rural and urban communities. Forest Service R&D provides scientific information and new technology to support sustainable management of the Nation’s forests and rangelands. These products and services increase the basic biological, physical, and applied knowledge of the composition, structure, and function of forest, rangeland, and aquatic ecosystems. The information provided by the Forest Service R&D provides economic, health, and non-monetary environmental benefits to the American public by:

- protecting lives, property, water and air resources from wildfire;
- providing jobs and economic development through enhanced recreational opportunities;

- creating and maintaining resource utilization job opportunities for rural communities;
- creating and quantifying a wide variety of often non-monetized ecosystem services; and
- providing critical forest inventory and analysis data that benefit businesses, resources, and people.

Forest Service R&D provides the basic and applied science that bolsters the agency's efforts to promote resilient forests and sustainable communities that can adapt to forest threats such as drought, fire, and insect and disease infestations.

Strategic focus of Forest Service R&D on stakeholder needs

The Forest Service R&D focuses on a broad swath of applied research by maintaining programs in all 50 States, U.S. territories, and U.S. commonwealths. Forest Service R&D consists of seven research stations and 81 experimental forests and ranges. Forest Service R&D interacts with national forests in nine regions and with the agency's State and Private Forestry programs throughout the U.S.

In recent years, Forest Service R&D has intensified strategic actions to ensure the agency is focusing its available resources to meet the needs of our stakeholders. In FY 2016, those strategic actions to gauge and respond to stakeholder needs included:

- In FY 2016, wildfires continued to be a persistent and critical issue of concern to western States. The Forest Service's three western Research Stations (Rocky Mountain, Pacific Northwest, and Pacific Southwest) worked closely to avoid redundancy in the stations' work focus, and to be responsive to stakeholder needs. By closely coordinating on wildfire related applied and basic research, the western stations were able to maximize the resources available to meet the needs of western stakeholders for wildfire research and development.
- The Southern Research Station (SRS) has been convening meetings with State forestry managers to discuss forest management related issues and concerns that SRS can assist them in clarifying, understanding and resolving. These 'State-line' meetings generally involve multiple States with common issues. Topics span the range of research that SRS is involved in, including such current issues in water, forest health, insects and disease, genetics in forest restoration, biomass, fire and smoke management, economic and ecological values of forest, markets, white-nose syndrome in bats, long leaf pine ecosystem restoration, bottomland hardwood ecosystems, and more. To date, the agency has convened seven State-line meetings.
- Every three years, Forest Service R&D conducts Customer Satisfaction Surveys of the people and groups who use our research and information products. The results include a score which allows users to make comparisons with the scores of other Federal research and development organizations, and the results include feedback on what the agency is doing well and what the agency needs to do to improve. These surveys reveal that our products are rated as scientifically sound and are viewed as sources of authority. Currently, Forest Service R&D is focusing on providing workable and actionable solutions to questions raised by natural resource managers.
- The Forestry Research Advisory Council (FRAC) is composed of up to 20 members appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and drawn from Federal, State, university, industry, and non-governmental organizations. FRAC convenes bi-annually with stakeholders to discuss, prepare and present recommendations, and advise the Secretary on regional and national forestry research planning and coordination within stakeholders.

Forest Inventory and Analysis

The FIA program is a congressionally authorized and mandated census of all U.S. forests currently active in all 50 States. The Forest Service provides the information needed to assess America's forests. As the Nation's foremost continuous forest census, the program projects how forests are likely to appear 10 to 50 years from now, providing valid information to inform forest management planning across the Nation. The FIA leverages one partner dollar for every six Federal dollars spent. The FIA data are considered critical across the Nation for businesses, researchers, resource managers, and private citizens for informing restoration and utilization of forest resources. The FIA reports on the current conditions and recent trends in the area of public and private forest lands in the U.S. The Forest Service R&D focuses on a broad swath of applied research by maintaining programs in all 50 States, U.S. territories,

and U.S. commonwealths. Forest Service R&D consists of seven research stations and 81 experimental forests and ranges. Forest Service R&D interacts with national forests in nine regions and with the agency's State and Private Forestry programs throughout the U.S.

The FIA provides specific information on past, current, and projected tree numbers by species; the size and health of trees; tree growth, mortality, and harvest removals; loss of forested lands due to disturbances, such as hurricanes and wildland fires; wood production and utilization; and forest landownership. These continuous and national data enable the Forest Service to evaluate whether current forest management practices are sustainable in the long run, and inform policies that will enable future generation to enjoy America's forests.

The Forest Service has responded to stakeholder needs and significantly enhanced the FIA program by changing from a periodic survey to an annual survey; by increasing our capacity to analyze and publish data; and by expanding the scope of our data collection to include soil, under story vegetation, tree crown conditions, coarse woody debris, and lichen community composition on a subsample of our plots. The FIA program has expanded in recent years to include the sampling of urban trees on all land use types in select cities, and sampling in parts of interior Alaska.

These FIA data are essential to making sound investment decisions in forest management activities and land management planning, ensuring the long-term health of forests, and prolonging the availability of multiple uses from forests that create or maintain jobs across the Nation. For example, recent interest in biomass utilization for products such as wood pellets has created increased demand for reliable ways to estimate resource availability and sustainability. Refinements to an FIA tool used for reconciling existing demand from nearby mills, based on their capacity, allows for identification of areas for development of biomass utilization. This methodology has resulted in sizeable private sector investments and has helped create more than 300 forest sector jobs. Forest Service R&D also works closely with State forestry agencies and other partners to achieve the FIA mission. Recent data show that the FIA "Census for Trees" program positions State and public and private landowners to implement and profit from alternative energy and ecosystem service markets focused on carbon sequestration and the conversion of woody biomass to energy.

Strategic Program Areas and Priority Research Areas

The Forest Service R&D program structure consists of two integrated components: (1) the Strategic Program Areas (SPAs), which are the broader long-term programs and (2) the Priority Research Areas (PRAs), which address the emerging needs as well as the agency's priorities (see table). Each PRA contains varying SPA funding levels and SPA programmatic focus, as appropriate, to address that PRA within available resources. The SPA, (across the top row) represent a cohesive group of activities in PRAs (column on left side of table) as displayed in the rows in the table below.

FY 2018 Strategic Program Areas Funding Table
(dollars in thousands)

Priority Research Areas	Wildland Fire and Fuels Research	Invasives Species	Recreation	Resource Management and Use	Water, Air, and Soil	Wildlife and Fish	Inventory and Monitoring	Total
Forest Disturbances	\$234	\$158	\$0	\$12,529	\$1,633	\$2,563	\$4,380	\$21,497
Forest Inventory and Analysis	0	0	0	0	0	0	77,000	77,000
Watershed Mgmt. and Restoration	1,495	970	0	2,412	7,898	4,867	737	18,379
Bioenergy and Biobased Products	194	74	0	9,299	194	0	273	10,034
Urban Natural Resource Stewardship	370	0	1,688	883	1,120	0	746	4,807
Nanotechnology	0	0	0	3,706	0	0	0	3,706
National Forest System Lands Research	15,545	27,071	1,869	46,400	17,653	14,420	620	123,577
Total	\$17,838	\$28,274	\$3,557	\$75,228	\$28,498	\$21,849	\$83,756	\$259,000

Past Performance

Integrating the Customer Satisfaction Survey into Performance

The Customer Satisfaction Survey provides meaningful input that helps us adjust our performance to better meet the needs of our stakeholders. The survey is conducted every three years and measures satisfaction indices on a scale of 0 (poor) to 100 (excellent). The results help Forest Service R&D achieve its goals by identifying key drivers of satisfaction. The most recent survey was conducted in FY 2015, and the next survey is due in FY 2018.

The aggregate satisfaction score in FY 2015 was 76, which is well above the average score for all Federal agencies (66) for similar surveys and is above the baseline score for Forest Service R&D in 2006 (72). It does represent a three point decline from the FY 2012 survey, however the score is consistent with declines in satisfaction scores reported by other agencies. Results from the FY 2015 survey show that the agency scored high (92) in satisfaction for courtesy and responsiveness of Forest Service R&D personnel and “Products,” (84) for how well Forest Service R&D products met customer expectations.

“Relevance and quality” is a category that had high potential impact on satisfaction and a relatively low satisfaction score (74), indicating this is an area on which to focus for improvement. As a result, Forest Service R&D is working to provide more detailed and actionable Customer Satisfaction solutions with their research results.

Strategic Program Area Past Performance:

Wildland Fire and Fuels Research

Wildland Fire: Nature’s Fuel Treatment – In FY 2016, Forest Service R&D scientists evaluated more than 40 years of satellite imagery in wilderness and other areas with low human influence to build a model of expected fire activity. What they found suggests that wildfires reduce the probability that subsequent fires will ignite and spread; wildfires reduce the size of subsequent fires by acting as fuel breaks, and; the severity of subsequent fires is significantly lower in areas that have recently burned compared to areas that have not.

These findings are helping land managers to assess whether a previous wildland fire will act as a fuel treatment based on the length of time since the previous fire occurred, along with local conditions such as ecosystem type, topography and fire weather conditions. By factoring in the ecological benefits of fire, land managers are able to manage fire in a way that fosters more resilient landscapes. See: <http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/news-releases/comparing-expected-observed-area-burned-western-united-states>

Improving Fire Fighting and Prescribed Burns – In FY 2016, the Prescribed Fire Combustion and Atmospheric Dynamics Research Experiment (RxCADRE) produced unprecedented field data on prescribed fires, which are controlled burns that reduce hazardous fuels in forests. Hazardous fuels are the over-accumulation of vegetation on NFS lands, such as grass, plants, shrubs, and trees that feed a fire. RxCADRE is helping improve modelled predictions of fire and smoke behavior that support decision-making to fight wildland fires and reduce the air quality impacts of prescribed burns. See: <http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/projects/rxcadre-prescribed-fire-combustion-and-atmospheric-dynamics-research-experiment-0>

Inventory and Monitoring

Forest Service Research Improves Road Management and Influences National Policy – In FY 2016, Forest Service researchers collaborated with partners to develop analytic tools that identify specific areas where water drains off forest roads and carries unwanted sediment into waterways. These tools, Geomorphic Road Analysis and Inventory Package (GRAIP) and GRAIP-Lite, informed new Environmental Protection Agency policy decisions.

Partnering with Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources -

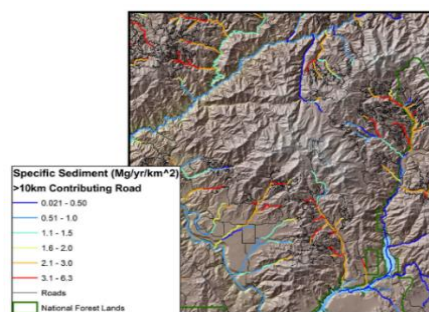
In FY 2016, Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) found FIA data to be so important to help sustainably manage Wisconsin's forests that DNR has been partnering with the Forest Service to double the number of State plots measured annually, including urban areas. This data which never previously existed will empower urban forest managers to make more informed decisions about managing the urban forests of Wisconsin, and eventually the Nation. While still sticking with FIA core measurements, FIA metrics have grown into areas that are increasingly important to DNR stakeholders such as estimating forest biomass, forest regeneration, and invasive species.

Applied Research on Prescribed Burning



A Forest Service scientist is preparing a video camera prior to ignition of one of the large grass-shrub burn plots at Eglin Air Force Base, on the Florida panhandle.

Geomorphic Road Analysis & Inventory Package



GRAIP-Lite is a new GIS-tool that provides general estimates of erosion from forest roads across the nation.

Working to Prevent Endangered or Threatened listing of species

Supporting Resilience of Sagebrush Ecosystems – Research found that improving sagebrush habitat significantly reduced threats to the greater sage-grouse across 90 percent of the species’ breeding habitat. Plant genetic analysis by Forest Service R&D scientists revealed critical steps in effective restoration. This research focused on ecological genetics of sagebrush, which is under threat principally from wildfire and exotic weed encroachment. Research by Forest Service R&D scientists is also supporting a wide breadth of conservation efforts that are underway across the western U.S. to reduce threats to greater sage-grouse and the sagebrush ecosystems on which they depend. See:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/science-spotlights/science-based-guidelines-restoration-and-conservation-sagebrush-ecosystems>

Working to Optimize Biodiversity Corridors - Under the pressures of both rapid human development and drought, wildlife habitat has diminished and become fragmented, at times compromising the ability of many species to survey. As the human population grows and expands its footprint, maintaining the connectivity of animal habitat is a challenge. Habitat corridors are critical for keeping wildlife species connected across the landscape. A new optimization technique recently developed by the Forest Service and partners will now help conservation biologists choose the most cost-effective ways of connecting isolated populations of rare, threatened and endangered species living in protected areas. <http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/news-releases/optimization-technique-identifies-cost-effective-biodiversity-corridors>

Water Quality and Quantity

Protecting the Water Supply of Contiguous U.S. - This FY 2016 study estimated water supply across the contiguous 48 States for the period 1981-2010. Political, administrative, and land cover boundaries were mapped over the gridded water supply estimates to indicate the amount of water available in respective land areas. The study shows that forests provide 46 percent of the mean annual water supply for the contiguous U.S. These new estimates incorporate more recent precipitation and temperature data, apply a different water yield model, and utilize newer land cover data.

Best Management Practices Improve Water Quality and Save Money – In FY 2016, Forest Service scientists pioneered the first national program to strengthen implementation and monitoring of best management practices (BMP) used to protect water quality from the diverse range of ground disturbing and management activities that occur on National Forest System lands. The national BMP monitoring protocols provide consistency for evaluating BMP implementation and effectiveness across all units, which in turn allows the Forest Service, for the first time ever, to report national performance results to regulatory agencies, States, Tribes, other stakeholders, and the public.

Sage Grouse Habitat

In partnership with BLM and the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), Forest Service R&D has provided the “resistance and resilience” science for management of sagebrush ecosystems. This approach allows us to determine where greater sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) are most likely to persist, and where management actions, particularly restoration, are most likely to succeed (Humboldt National Forest).

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State and Private Forestry

Appropriation	State and Private Forestry				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
State and Private Forestry					
Annual Appropriations	\$237,023	\$236,573	\$118,010	-\$118,563	-50%
State and Private Forestry Total	237,023	236,573	118,010	-118,563	-50%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	554	554	435	-118	-21%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	554	554	435	-118	-21%
State and Private Forestry					
Landscape Scale Restoration	14,000	13,973	0	-13,973	-100%
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands	58,922	58,810	54,205	-4,605	-8%
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands	40,678	40,601	36,185	-4,416	-11%
Forest Stewardship	23,036	22,992	20,500	-2,492	-11%
Forest Legacy Program	62,347	62,229	0	-62,229	-100%
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation	2,000	1,996	0	-1,996	-100%
Urban and Community Forestry	28,040	27,987	0	-27,987	-100%
International Forestry	8,000	7,985	7,120	-865	-11%

State and Private Forestry Overview

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$118,010,000 for State and Private Forestry, a decrease of \$118,563,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$274,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$375,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 118 staff years (\$236,573,000 and 554 staff years available in 2017).

The State and Private Forestry (SPF) programs help sustain the Nation's rural forests, assist private landowners, and protect the environment from insects, disease, and invasive plants. More than 50 percent of our Nation's forests; approximately 445 million acres, are privately owned. These forests supply almost 30 percent of the surface drinking water to cities and rural communities, and over 90 percent of our domestically-produced forest products.

The SPF programs help protect these forests and provide support to keep working forests intact. This Federal investment leverages the capacity of State Foresters and their partners to manage State and private lands and produce ecological, social, and economic benefits for the American people. For example, as a result of SPF program investments, more than 25.8 million acres are now being managed more sustainably because of landowner planning, have been treated to protect against wildfires and insects and diseases, or have been protected from development.

Partnerships are critical in implementing and delivering SPF programs. Through a coordinated effort in management, protection, conservation education, and resource use, SPF programs help facilitate sound stewardship of lands across all ownerships on a landscape scale, while maintaining the flexibility for individual forest landowners to pursue their objectives. This request adjusts the role of the Federal government within this coordinated effort.

Landscape Scale Restoration

Budget Line Item	Landscape Scale Restoration				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Landscape Scale Restoration Annual Appropriations	\$14,000	\$13,973	0	-\$13,973	-100%
Landscape Scale Restoration Total	14,000	13,973	0	-13,973	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%

Performance Measure

Accomplishment and Targets (1)

	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Landscape Scale Restoration			
Total value of resources (expressed as a ratio) leveraged through partnerships with states and other partners	1.1	1.3	0.0

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the Landscape Scale Restoration program, a decrease of \$13,973,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR. In FY 2018, the Forest Service's focus will be on the maintenance of the existing National Forest System lands.

Program Overview

The Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) program was established in FY 2014 to enable States to pursue landscape scale projects that focus on priorities identified in their State Forest Action Plans.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, the Forest Service competitively allocated \$11.6 million for 46 projects in 32 States, Territories, and the District of Columbia. The agency leveraged over \$13 million in partner dollars and in-kind contributions. Of these projects, 41 contributed to active and sustainable forest management; almost 40 mitigated threats to forest health; and 46 improved air quality, provided economic benefits, enhanced and protected water quality, or helped forests mitigate or adapt to changing conditions.

Forest Health Management

Forest Health Management					
(dollars in thousands)					
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest Health Management					
Annual Appropriations	\$99,600	\$99,411	\$90,390	-\$9,021	-9%
Forest Health Management Total	99,600	99,411	90,390	-9,021	-9%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	382	382	350	-32	-8%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	382	382	350	-32	-8%
Forest Health Management					
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands	58,922	58,810	54,205	-4,605	-8%
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands	40,678	40,601	36,185	-4,416	-11%

Forest Health Management Overview

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$90,390,000 for Forest Health Management, a decrease of \$9,021,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR.

The Forest Health Management (FHM) program provides insect, disease, and invasive plant survey and monitoring information on forest health conditions on Federal and non-Federal (Cooperative) lands, and provides technical and financial assistance to prevent, suppress, and control outbreaks threatening forest resources and watershed conditions. FHM uses analytical data from surveys, monitoring, and applied research to direct active land management treatments. The agency transfers technology to assist customers and partners to restore and manage healthy forest landscapes across State, private, Tribal, and Federal lands, including both urban and rural forests. Because of the expertise required to carry out this work and land treatment activities, this program also creates private sector jobs.

Federal Lands: Activities are carried out on National Forest System lands, and on other Federal lands in cooperation with other departments, such as the Department of the Interior, with USDA agencies such as the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and with Tribal governments. Pests and diseases affect forests across all lands, so these activities are coordinated to prevent, detect, monitor, evaluate, and suppress insects and disease, reduce wildfire risks, and improve forest health.

Cooperative Lands: Activities on cooperative lands are carried out in cooperation with States and Territories in a coordinated program to maintain and restore forestlands damaged by insects, disease, and invasive plants. These are lands owned by States, local governments, private organizations, and individual landowners.

The Forest Service continues to commit resources to address public safety and forest health needs arising from millions of acres of dead and dying trees from bark beetle infestations. In FY 2018, the Forest Service will continue management actions on forests affected by beetle outbreaks through multiple funding sources, including FHM. In coordination with partners and stakeholders, the Forest Service will direct funds to high-priority areas experiencing tree mortality as a result of bark beetle infestations to reduce the impacts of the infestation, and to more aggressively focus our efforts to promote public safety, forest recovery, and resiliency.

The FHM program will continue to treat prioritized areas to reduce the potential for new outbreaks; protect these areas from damaging insects, diseases, and invasive plants; and reduce the risks of undesired mortality from wildfire. Insect/Disease funding is based primarily on current pest locations and populations detected through surveys, and level of risk as identified in the National Insect and Disease Risk Map (NIDRM), a tool developed by Forest Service researchers and scientists to predict how forests will be affected over time. NIDRM is a predictive tool modeled to 2027, and is used extensively by Federal and non-Federal forest managers, as well as academia. Invasive plant funding is based on State and regional priorities. Cost effectiveness and probability of successful implementation of treatments are taken into consideration. Treatments are integrated with other Forest Service

activities, such as hazardous fuels, forest management and watershed restoration, and maintenance activities to most efficiently restore resilience to key landscapes.

Assessing Conditions

Current conditions of mortality and defoliation (stripping of leaves or foliage) are monitored every year by extensive nationally standardized aerial and ground surveys conducted on over 400 million acres of forestlands. These surveys are an integral part of the FHM program because they provide rapid and early detection of forest pests. Surveys provide key information to forest managers, helping to best target treatments on impacted lands. For example, addressing the bark beetle infestation in areas of the West resulted in reduced infestation impacts and spawned collaborative State, Federal, and private activities; monitoring and treatment activity of the gypsy moth in the east has slowed the spread of this insect from entering into important oak forests which hold high natural resource value and are economically important; and in the south, tracking activity levels as well as conducting ongoing treatments to manage southern pine beetle outbreaks.

Emerging Threats

FHM will continue to assess and evaluate forests across the country. In partnership with States, the agency focuses on identifying and documenting damage caused by forest insects, tree diseases, and invasive plants; changes in the population dynamics of host preferences of pests; and other changes in pest activity caused by environmental and other disturbance conditions. FHM works collaboratively with other Federal agencies, especially with the USDA's APHIS to combat several damaging invasive pests (such as emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle), and invasive plants. Most of the partnership work includes surveys and monitoring, suppression, control, and eradication treatments, developing novel methods for combating pests – including biocontrols and education/outreach with the public.

Planned FY 2018 activities to address these emerging threats include the following highlights:

Several species of western bark beetle are causing severe mortality across Western States, especially in California, increasing risks for catastrophic fire, and for the health and safety of the people who use America's forests. FHM will continue to focus its resources on prevention, suppression, and public safety -- especially in high value sites such as campgrounds and administrative sites -- in coordination with other Federal land managers.

Southern pine beetle has historically been the most destructive forest pest in the South. Infestations have now been found in New Jersey and New York. The Forest Service is working closely with State and Federal partners to detect and manage these outbreaks. Since 2004, the Forest Service has implemented the Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Program, which supports forest management activities reducing southern pine beetle risk. Over a million acres have been treated to reduce the risk of southern pine beetle infestations on State, private, and Federal lands across the South. This program continues to be an example of Forest Service leadership and successful cooperation across all-lands.

Hemlock woolly adelgid remains a significant threat to hemlock forests in the Eastern U.S. The Forest Service uses a multi-partner strategy to address this non-native insect on private, State, and Federal lands. This integrated effort focuses on management of high value hemlocks (using biological and chemical controls), research, and methods development.

The following table displays funding levels for selected insects, diseases, and invasive plants for FY 2016 to FY 2018. The funding strategy is based in large part on findings from the current surveys of pest conditions, NIDRM, and priorities in the State Forest Action Plans.

Funding for Selected Insects, Diseases and Invasive Plants by Fiscal Year

(dollars in thousands)

RD - (Research Appropriation) SPF – (State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Appropriation)	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 Estimates
Asian Longhorned Beetle (Total)	\$161	\$159	\$143
SPF	47	45	47
RD	114	114	96
Douglas-fir Tussock Moth (Total)	96	45	42
SPF	25	25	25
RD	71	20	17
Emerald Ash Borer (Total)	389	391	392
SPF	240	240	240
RD	149	151	152
Gold Spotted Oak Borer, Thousand Canker Disease, Laurel Wilt (Total)	1,449	1,423	1,317
SPF	587	561	587
RD	862	862	730
Gypsy Moth (Total)	10,933	9,905	10,265
SPF	9,979	9,465	9,979
RD	954	440	286
Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (Total)	2,722	2,666	2,583
SPF	1,770	1,770	1,770
RD	952	896	813
Invasive Plants (Total)	2,812	2,888	2,638
SPF	1,678	1,825	1,678
RD	1,134	1,063	960
Oak Wilt (Total)	540	574	528
SPF	466	500	466
RD	74	74	62
Port Orford Cedar Root Disease - S&PF (Total)	187	223	187
SPF	187	223	187
RD	0	0	0
Sirex Woodwasp (Total)	404	370	301
SPF	90	90	90
RD	314	280	211
Southern Pine Beetle (Total)	3,623	3,653	3,552
SPF	3,170	3,200	3,170
RD	453	453	382
Subterranean Termites - R&D (Total)	1,553	1,203	844
SPF	N/A	N/A	N/A
RD	1,553	1,203	844

RD - (Research Appropriation) SPF – (State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Appropriation)	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 Estimates
Sudden Oak Death (Total)	1,698	1,789	1,647
SPF	1,407	1,500	1,407
RD	291	289	240
Western Bark Beetles (Total)	4,668	4,609	4,534
SPF	4,103	4,103	4,103
RD	565	506	431
Whitebark Pine Pests - (Total)	117	125	117
SPF	117	125	117
RD	0	0	0
White Pine Blister Rust (Total)	776	681	655
SPF	420	425	420
RD	356	256	235
Total Funding	\$32,128	\$30,704	\$29,745
SPF	\$24,286	\$24,097	\$24,286
RD	\$7,842	\$6,607	\$5,459

Forest Health Management – Federal Lands

Budget Line Item	Forest Health Management - Federal Lands				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands					
Annual Appropriations	\$58,922	\$58,810	\$54,205	-\$4,605	-8%
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands Total	58,922	58,810	54,205	-4,605	-8%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	296	296	273	-23	-8%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	296	296	273	-23	-8%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands			
Federal acres treated - Invasives	175,877	88,688	80,000
Federal acres treated - Native pests	216,691	152,146	136,000

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$54,205,000 for the Forest Health Management – Federal Lands program, a net decrease of \$4,605,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$172,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$235,000 for 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 23 staff years (\$58,810,000 and 296 staff years available in 2017).

A decrease of \$4,605,000 in funding for international projects, and survey and technical assistance. The agency will continue to focus on the most pressing needs of forest restoration and reducing communities' risk to catastrophic fire.

Program Overview

Pests cause billions of dollars in damage to trees and other forest resources each year, resulting in reduced productivity, loss of recreation opportunities, and the creation of safety hazards in the Nation's forested lands. The Forest Health Management-Federal Lands (FHM—Federal Lands) program supports efforts to detect, prevent, suppress, and to monitor and evaluate forest insects and diseases to protect forest lands managed by the Forest Service and other Federal agencies. In addition to providing financial support, the agency provides technical assistance and methods development to Forest Service staffs and other Federal agencies to assist in appropriate and timely responses to protect the Nation's forests from insects and diseases.

The agency employs an all-lands approach to forest health issues because forests cross jurisdictional boundaries. Just as pests do not distinguish among different ownerships, some methods of pest management allow practitioners to affect entire landscapes, treating both public and private lands in an ecologically responsible and economically effective manner.

Currently, the major pests the agency manages include sudden oak death, white pine blister rust, bark beetles, gypsy moth, hemlock woolly adelgid, oak wilt, and southern pine beetle. Since pests cross administrative boundaries, the agency collaborates with our partners in an all-lands approach to develop integrated management strategies that address each important pest. To use our funding most efficiently, the agency treats the highest priority areas identified by aerial and ground surveys and the National Insect and Disease Risk Map (NIDRM) in coordination

with State Forest Action Plans.

The treatments protect areas from damaging insects and disease, reduce the risks of mortality from wildland fire, and prevent future outbreaks by increasing the resilience of treated areas. Insect and disease pests include native and non-native invasives. Insects and pathogens native to North America may develop into outbreaks when environmental and host conditions favor their buildup. Non-native invasive insect and disease pests introduced from other countries result in significant damage to host species when there is little or no resistance from the host. Both native and non-native invasive pests can cause significant damage and tree mortality when populations are high; and this is usually a result of the availability of hosts, biology of the pest, and environmental factors. Drought can play a significant role in tree stress. Combined with bark beetle infestations, dead trees are having significant effects on the people who live, work, and/or visit affected areas across the west. Currently, the most visible and concerning result of invasive beetles are the high number of hazardous dead and dying trees in and around communities and campgrounds and along roads, trails, and power lines. The agency expects these trees to continue dying until precipitation returns to and remains normal (or above) for one to two years.

The Forest Service also works to conserve at-risk tree species using gene conservation efforts that will support other FHM-Federal Lands projects on lands negatively impacted by the effects of insects and diseases.

The program continues to fund the Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center in Asheville, North Carolina, and the Western Wildland Environmental Threat Assessment Center in Prineville, Oregon, and provides information on how multiple threats interact with pests. Other agency programs like State and Private Forestry, National Forest System (NFS), and Forest Service Research and Development also support the Environmental Threat Assessment Centers.

Past Performance

FHM-Federal Lands program provides technical and financial assistance to other Forest Service programs and other Federal agencies. The Forest Health staff provides technical assistance to the Department of the Interior agencies, Department of Defense facilities and Service academies to detect and identify forest insect and diseases, and make recommendations on management options. The agency also provides advice to Tribes to detect, monitor, and manage insects and diseases on Tribal lands. When Tribes identify infestations that require treatments, the agency provides financial assistance. Of the approximately \$1.8 million dollars the agency provided in FY 2016, over \$600,000 went to Tribes to treat more than 25,000 acres.

Sudden oak death

The Forest Service is taking a cooperative approach to reduce the impact of sudden oak death in the western United States. Sudden oak death is a devastating, fast-moving disease that affects native oaks and related species, killing trees and disrupting ecosystems. The agency works with our Federal and Tribal partners, such as the Redwood National Park and Hoopa and Karuk Tribes, to monitor and develop techniques to combat this disease. In FY 2016, the agency worked with our partners to remove infected trees on National Park Service (NPS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, reducing the chances that sudden oak death will infest neighboring trees and landscapes. The agency also increased homeowner awareness of this disease through an education campaign conducted with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the BLM, and the NPS.

This invasive pathogen will have a significant impact if it spreads beyond the known infestation areas in California and Oregon. The loss of oak would adversely affect ecosystem functions such as water quality, biodiversity, and forest structure, as well as the hardwood markets. Sudden oak death infestation merits treatment, removal, and replacement of thousands of oak trees in affected communities at an estimated cost of \$7.5 million annually. Experts project losses in residential values for California homeowners at \$135 million between 2010 and 2020.

White pine blister rust

High elevation white pines are among the oldest tree species in western North America, unique for their ability to live and thrive in extreme mountain conditions. White pines are extremely important as they are a critical food

source for bears, Clark's nutcracker, and other wildlife; they maintain slope stability in steep areas; and are culturally important to many Native people. White pine blister rust was initially found in the 1930s causing significant damage and mortality to white pines. As these pines decline, the diversity of plant and wildlife species that depend on them will be impacted and sites that once contained these trees may erode and snow retention will decrease. Widespread mortality could impact tourist economies – for example, over 100,000 people per year pay an entrance fee in Colorado to visit an ancient bristlecone pine forest that is vulnerable to this disease.

The agency continues to work with our partners in the National Forest System Forest Management Program to identify individual trees that withstood the onset of white pine blister rust. The agency now recognizes this as genetic resistance to the disease, and know that restoration of white pine in high-elevation forests depends on our ability to collect and maintain the genetic seed stock of these surviving trees. However, recent increases in bark beetle activity in the West have put all high elevation pines, including white pines, at increased risk of mortality. Application of management techniques to reduce the impact of the beetle has allowed managers to protect the genetic resource of the resistant trees and ensure the future survival of white pines. In FY 2016, the agency protected high value trees by applying protective sprays and using pheromones (chemicals naturally released by insects) to disrupt beetle activity.

Spruce beetle

A spruce beetle outbreak in southern Colorado is rapidly expanding in high elevation spruce-fir forests, and acres impacted have nearly doubled in the past few years. The agency is working with National Forest System (NFS) to address this outbreak in high value areas. Actions have been taken to enhance safety on public lands close to the wildland-urban interface, and in FY 2016 the agency focused on removing hazardous trees, especially in highly used areas like campgrounds. Efforts are also underway to reforest and diversify the affected landscape.

Southern pine beetle

Programs designed to control southern pine beetle populations focus on the fact that well-managed stands are much less prone to attack. Southern pine beetles are native to these pine forests, but beetle activity can sometimes disrupt forests by killing significant numbers of mature trees. Thinning of susceptible landscapes and diversifying conditions throughout the forest are proven techniques that reduce southern pine beetle activity.

The agency continued this strategy in FY 2016, and found the tactics even more effective when conducted over large landscapes. These efforts have resulted in cross-boundary efforts that have reduced southern pine beetle numbers to their lowest levels in decades.

Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network

The polyphagous shot hole borer, and the associated pathogen *fusarium* (known as “PSHB-FD”), were linked to tree injury and mortality in 2012 in Los Angeles County, although it was first detected in California in 2002. Since 2012, the PSHB-FD has spread to five counties in southern California, and has injured or killed several native, ornamental, and agriculturally important tree species. Because this pest has caused similar damage in Vietnam, China, and Israel, the agency formed partnerships with counterparts under the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network.

Southern Pine Beetle Prevention in Mississippi



These pine forests in Mississippi were thinned in the area marked “1” in 2011. Area marked (2) was not thinned. This photo from 2012 illustrates the devastation that southern pine beetle can cause and the effectiveness thinning treatments can have to maintain native forests. Photo credit: Forest Service

This issue-focused partnership aims to identify effective management options for this destructive pest. The agency implemented initial studies in FY 2015, and plan to continue for three years. In FY 2016, the work advanced and expanded to other countries including the Philippines and Samoa. This cooperative study confirmed that the PSHB-FD living in California, China, and Vietnam originated from the same source, which will help in developing methods to combat the disease.

Performance tracking

The FHM-Federal Lands program upgraded its Forest Health Accomplishment Database (FAD) to include spatial mapping, and to integrate data and reports from other State and Private Forestry programs. The upgrade helps track accomplishments and link with other datasets so the agency can better articulate the contributions the program makes toward maintaining healthy functioning forests.

Forest Health Management – Cooperative Lands

Budget Line Item	Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands					
Annual Appropriations	\$40,678	\$40,601	\$36,185	-\$4,416	-11%
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands Total	40,678	40,601	36,185	-4,416	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	86	86	77	-9	-10%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	86	86	77	-9	-10%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands			
Cooperative lands acres treated - Invasives	624,699	391,893	352,200
Cooperative lands acres treated - Native pests	27,980	42,115	37,900

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$36,185,000 for the Forest Health Management – Cooperative Lands program, a net decrease of \$4,416,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$49,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$66,000 for 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 9 staff years (\$40,601,000 and 86 staff years available in 2017).

The Forest Service will continue to focus on pest and pathogen activity on State and private lands that threaten nearby national forests and grasslands.

Program Overview

Forest insects and pathogens impact forests on all lands and all ownerships. An increase of pest and pathogen activity on State and private lands threatens the integrity of near-by and adjacent Federal forest lands.

The Forest Health Management (FHM) Cooperative Lands program provides technical and financial assistance to States, the District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, and Freely Associated States to monitor, assess, and mitigate forest health threats on non-Federal lands. Financial assistance is usually provided on a 1:1 cost-sharing basis. Treatments protect priority areas from damaging insects, diseases, and invasive plants; reduce the risks of mortality from wildland fire; protect highly valued sites; and prevent future outbreaks by increasing the resilience of the vegetation in treated areas. The program also funds the use of Early Detection and Rapid Response efforts to detect invasive insects and diseases, thereby reducing future costs to address pest outbreaks.⁹

The FHM program funds support three objectives: conducting pest surveys and providing technical assistance; conducting prevention, suppression, restoration, and eradication projects; and monitoring the health of the Nation's forests. The Forest Service uses aerial and ground surveys and the National Insect and Disease Risk Map to select project locations for funding non-Federal partners. The State Forest Action Plans help guide our activities on non-Federal lands. Treatment placements incorporate local priorities including priority landscapes such as wildland-

⁹Rabaglia, Robert, Donald Duerr, Robert Acciavatti, and Iral Ragenovich. *Early Detection and Rapid Response for Non-Native Bark and Ambrosia Beetles* (2008) USDA Forest Service.

urban interface areas, municipal water supply areas, outdoor recreational sites, and administrative sites.

The Forest Service provides essential support to its non-Federal partners is to protect America's forested lands from pests. States identified forest health challenges as one of the most common problems requiring attention in their State Forest Action Plans, but States and Territories often lack the scientific or financial resources to address these issues. A 2011 study found that non-native invasive forest insects annually cost local governments an average of more than \$2 billion, while associated residential property value losses average \$1.5 billion.¹⁰ This program helps reduce these negative impacts and associated costs. As discussed in the gypsy moth section below, investments in the Forest Service Slow-the-Spread gypsy moth program yield a benefit to cost ratio of more than 3 to 1.¹¹ Without Slow-the-Spread, gypsy moth would affect an estimated 50 million additional acres, causing much greater impacts and higher future treatment costs.

The support the Forest Service provides to its non-Federal partners is essential to protecting America's forested lands from pests.

The FHM-Cooperative Lands program addresses insects and pathogens on Federal, State, and Tribal lands because these pests adversely affect all forests, regardless of ownership. The agency provides technical and financial assistance to State partners to address needs and issues identified in State Forest Action Plans, pest detection surveys, and areas at risk for infestations. The agency supports treatment area identification and prioritization through efforts such as the National Insect and Disease Risk Map, a science-based administrative planning tool that provides a nationwide strategic assessment of insect- and disease-caused hazard tree mortality. This suite of information includes items like action plans, surveys, and risk maps that help State partners to prioritize and prescribe treatments before pest populations reach damaging levels.

Past Performance

The Forest Service collaborated with States and other non-Federal partners in FY 2016 to treat State and private lands, accomplishing treatment of non-native invasive pests on 624,619 acres and native pest species on 27,980 acres. Of the dozens of programs and projects funded through the program, the following projects highlight sustained, successful efforts to combat invasive pests that threaten public, State, and private lands.

Partnership and Technical Assistance

The FHM-Cooperative Lands program and partners provide hundreds of thousands of hours of technical assistance to State agencies and the public, primarily through State forestry or agricultural agencies. This technical assistance includes site visits, phone consultations, workshop and conference participation, and development of tools and methods to respond to insect and disease problems. For example, State forestry agencies in New England are providing technical assistance to private landowners to assess pathological conditions of white pine trees and provide management guidelines to ensure sustained and healthy pine stands throughout the region. White pine is a crucial ecological, economic, and social component of New England forests and several tree diseases threaten the benefits provided by this species. The Forest Service and university scientists work cooperatively to transfer new technologies to State partners. This stakeholder association led to a multi-State project funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, entitled *Eastern White Pine Health and Responses to Environmental Changes*. This project will assess future losses associated with white pine health issues and make management recommendations to improve white pine health and productivity.

Southern Pine Beetle

The Southern Pine Beetle Prevention program is a good example of an all-lands strategy that encourages forest management practices that prevent outbreaks through cooperation among State and Federal partners. This program has treated more than one million acres of forests across the southeastern United States to improve resistance against these native insects that kill mature pine trees of all species. Thinning these forests in FY 2016 to stimulate

¹⁰ Aukema, JE, Leung B, Kovacs K, Chivers C, Britton KO, Englin, J, Frankel, S, Height, RG, Holmes, TP, Liebhold, AM, McCullough DG, Van Holle, B. (2011) *Economic Impacts of Non-Native Forest Insects in the Continental United States*. PLOS ONE 6(9): e24587. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0024587.

¹¹ Sills, Erin 2008. *Assessment of the Economic Feasibility of the Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread Project. Final Report to USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry Grant #NC-06-DG-11244225-337*. 72 pp.

resilience reduced beetles to little activity, and the forests remain able to produce important benefits like clean air and water, wildlife habitat, forest products, and recreational opportunities. When outbreaks of this insect do occur, the agency works closely with partners to suppress the infestation and minimize impacts. For example, in 2015, Long Island, New York experienced its first recorded southern pine beetle outbreak. The Forest Service provided technical and financial assistance to State cooperators, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the NPS to stop the infestation from spreading onto additional State, private, and Federal lands. While Federal funding has sponsored these treatments, a portion of these funds have been used to educate adjacent landowners on the benefits of management treatments, because cooperation of all landowners is vital to ensuring the overall program success. In FY 2018, the Forest Service will continue this effective program.

Gypsy Moth

The Slow-the-Spread (STS) program is another proactive, long-term strategy through which the agency work with State and Federal partners across the landscape to reduce the impacts the gypsy moth, one of North America's most devastating forest pests. Since its inception in 2000, the STS program has prevented the gypsy moth from spreading from the infested area that is north and east of North Carolina to Minnesota into 50 million acres of oak forests to the south and west. The STS program has reduced the spread of this destructive pest to three miles per year. At this rate, the STS measures will prevent infestation of more than 150 million acres over the next 20 years, saving extensive urban and wildland hardwood forests in the south and upper mid-west. The program unifies partners and promotes coordinated region-wide actions based on biological need. The STS program yields a benefit-to-cost ratio of more than 3 to 1 by delaying the onset of impacts that occur as gypsy moths invade new areas. In FY 2016, STS treated more than 400,000 acres in eight States to keep the gypsy moth infestations contained and to minimize further spread.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

In cooperation with State foresters, the Forest Service implemented a national hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) initiative that focuses on expanded management and technology development. HWA remains the single greatest threat to the health and sustainability of hemlock as a forest resource in the eastern U.S. This non-native pest has impacts comparable to those of the gypsy moth, Dutch elm disease, and chestnut blight. It has the potential to remove hemlock, a major ecological component that is important for maintaining clean water and supporting wildlife, from Eastern forests. This aphid-like insect has changed forest structure, created openings for invasive plants to gain a foothold, and has caused cascading effects on species makeup and dynamics. Large openings in the forests resulting from HWA have changed hydrologic characteristics of watersheds, and increased stream temperatures in many eastern forests where hemlock once was dominant. Through a cooperative strategy with universities, States, conservation organizations, National Forests, and other Federal agencies, the Forest Service is reducing damage caused by HWA within the 19 affected States.

Sudden Oak Death

With Forest Service funding, non-Federal land managers have treated infested areas of several tree species in California and Oregon to contain the sudden oak death outbreak and slow its spread. First discovered in Germany and central California in the early 1990s, the disease has devastating effects on U.S. Pacific coast forests, resulting in widespread mortality. Since host plants include a broad range of ornamental species, nurseries continually struggle with accidental introductions, compounding the risk of establishment in vulnerable oak ecosystems. Strategies for slowing the spread of this invasive plant pathogen in these coastal areas involve working closely with State forestry agencies. In 2016, the Forest Service and State partners continued a National Stream Baiting strategy in the eastern United States to detect the presence of the pathogen that causes sudden oak death. The Forest Service continues to support Tribes and industry who want to eliminate sudden oak death because of its potential to affect natural heritage sites and timber production. The USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service regulates the sudden oak death pathogen, and areas with known introductions are subject to quarantine.

Invasive Plants

The agency provides matching funds and technical assistance to regional cooperative weed management organizations to combat economically significant invasive plant threats to forestlands. Invasive plants are non-native

species that aggressively compete with and displace native plant communities in ecosystems across the Nation. Invasive plants can cause loss and destruction of forage and habitat for wildlife, reductions in available grazing land, lost forest productivity, reduced groundwater levels, soil degradation, and an increased threat of devastating wildfires. Invasive plants can also reduce land values and diminish recreational enjoyment. The agency targets numerous widespread species, including rush skeletonweed, mile-a-minute weed, leafy spurge, yellow star thistle, giant hogweed, cheatgrass, spotted knapweed, saltcedar, scotch broom, buffelgrass, and musk thistle. In the South, this program has funded treatments to combat the invasive cogongrass, a Federally-listed noxious weed that forms dense mats and significantly reduces native tree and plant regeneration. Congongrass is extremely flammable and may contribute to hazardous wildfire conditions. In 2015, for the first time since funding for cogongrass control began in Georgia, the State had more dead cogongrass spots than reported new infestations.

Forest Stewardship Program

Budget Line Item	Forest Stewardship Program				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest Stewardship Annual Appropriations	\$23,036	\$22,992	\$20,500	-\$2,492	-11%
Forest Stewardship Total	23,036	22,992	20,500	-2,492	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	56	56	49	-7	-13%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	56	56	49	-7	-13%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Forest Stewardship			
Percentage of nonindustrial private forest acres in important forest resource areas being managed sustainably, as defined by a current Forest Stewardship Plan	2.7%	4.0%	4.0%
Acres of nonindustrial private forest land that are being managed sustainably under forest stewardship management plans. (Annual)	1,980,530	1,500,000	1,350,000
Acres of nonindustrial private forest land that are being managed sustainably under forest stewardship management plans. (Cumulative)	25,807,014	21,500,000	21,500,000

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget request proposes \$20,500,000 for the Forest Stewardship Program, a net decrease of \$2,492,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$31,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$43,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 7 staff years (\$22,992,000 and 56 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$20,500,000 to provide assistance to private landowners seeking to manage their forest lands. Better management of private lands supports the maintenance of nearby national forest and grasslands, and provides an economic contribution to local economies.

Program Overview

The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) is the primary Forest Service program focused on private forestland management and conservation. This program plays a central role in assisting private landowners - who own more than two-thirds of our Nation's forests - to address their most pressing resource management concerns. The program assists landowners through a national network of forestry professionals, primarily State forestry agencies, offering a variety of educational and technical assistance programs and activities, including comprehensive, multi-resource Forest Stewardship Plans.

Two-thirds of our Nation's forests (445 million acres) are privately owned.

Private forestlands provide numerous benefits for the American public, and keeping them intact as working forests is critical to maintaining these benefits. For example, private forestlands supply almost 30 percent of the surface drinking water to cities and rural communities, provide habitat for 60 percent of all at-risk species in the U.S., and provide over 90 percent of all the timber harvested in this country. This program helps landowners' access services and incentives, including forest certification, and financial help like cost-share programs and tax incentives. The Forest Service works with State forestry agencies and other partners to maximize program investments by linking individual landowner objectives to those of surrounding landscapes, and supporting development of multi-landowner, landscape-scale Forest Stewardship Plans.

Forest Stewardship Plans help motivate landowners to actively plan and manage their forests, greatly increasing the likelihood that their forests will remain productive and healthy, and that future generations will see the social, economic, and environmental benefits of these lands. Forest Stewardship Plans must consider the possible near- and long-term impacts of drought, including increased fire risk, invasive species migration, and species range and habitat shifts. Where appropriate and feasible, management plans will include actions to mitigate the adverse impacts of a changing climate.

Bar Cross Ranch, Williams, AZ



Cross-boundary partnerships were the key to success for Bar Cross Ranch and the surrounding community.

This program also helps landowners achieve their forest management objectives. These actively-managed forests provide timber, wildlife habitat, watershed protection, recreational opportunities, and many other benefits for landowners and communities. Approximately 300 million acres of these forests have private owners who use the land for non-industrial purposes. The FSP focuses on management of these small-acre holdings.

The Forest Service maintains longstanding partnerships with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (, the American Forest Foundation, the National Association of Conservation Districts, National Association of State Foresters, and other partners to coordinate and streamline technical assistance and address diverse landowner needs. This includes a web-based management plan and Stewardship Mapping and Reporting Tool (SMART) that tie program accomplishments to a variety of landscape management objectives. Due to its unique role in reaching and assisting private forest landowners, and the fact that the majority of America's forests are privately owned, the FSP is critical to fulfilling an all-lands vision for healthy and resilient forests.

Past Performance

The Forest Service will continue working with States to focus program investments where multiple resource outcomes are more likely based on State Forest Action Plans. The agency expect performance to improve as the Forest Service and States implement the recently-adopted Landscape Stewardship approach, which includes the development of multi-landowner, landscape scale Forest Stewardship Plans. The agency is seeing increases in program performance and impacts within priority areas.

In FY 2016, FSP supported high priority landscape projects that contribute to the agency's national strategic goals of "Sustain our Nation's Forest and Grasslands," "Deliver Benefits to the Public" and "Apply Knowledge Globally".

The FSP also helps create jobs in rural communities by sustaining local forest product markets and increasing demand for qualified private forestry consultants, loggers, and State agency field foresters. For example, the family-owned Bar Cross Ranch worked with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) and NRCS to implement their Forest Stewardship Plan objectives. The DFFM and NRCS provided technical and financial assistance that reduced fire risk and improved forest health on the ranch. As a result of this partnership success, Arizona DFFM and NRCS will co-fund three new forester positions in 2017 to ensure private forest landowners receive the financial and technical assistance needed to manage their woods. The FSP also helps prepare forest landowners for participation in emerging ecosystem services markets and other voluntary incentive programs. The

FSP encourages long-term stewardship of non-industrial private forestlands by assisting owners in actively managing their woods. In FY 2016, Hawaii's, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, partners, and community members developed the 1,200-acre Kapapala Koa Canoe Forest's management plan to restore the native Acacia koa forest for its environmental, cultural, and economic values. With agency support, they decided to integrate the Education Plan into the larger Management Area Plan so it would serve as the catalyst for engaging the community in stewardship of the area. The program introduces students to the complex interactions between the trees, birds, and water.

With agency support, the Sustaining Family Forests Initiative (SFFI) is teaching natural resource professionals innovative approaches for reaching family forest woodland owners with effective conservation and stewardship messages, services, and programs. Using this program's funds in FY 2016, the SFFI expanded their program across the Nation, the Pacific Islands, and U.S. Territories. The program has reached 300 individuals from 115 natural resource management and conservation organizations, including those attending a workshop in Hawaii for Pacific Island representatives.

In the Midwest, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is implementing the Tullibee Lakes landscape stewardship project to protect priority forested watersheds, water quality, and numerous fish species. In FY 2016, MDNR contacted 1,000 landowners, prepared 25,000 acres of FSP plans, and implemented over \$90,000 in cost-share projects.

In FY 2016, the agency continued implementation and refinement of the SMART online spatial mapping tool, which spatially tracks all program accomplishments within priority areas identified in State Forest Action Plans. By using the SMART Data Quality Assurance Plan, the agency improved reliability in program performance data. With State agencies reporting to SMART and with data quality assurance measures in place, the agency can use this extensive database, in combination with other environmental databases, to assess program accomplishments.

In 2016, the agency contracted with NatureServe to compare program data with known locations of rare and imperiled species to assess our contribution to biodiversity on a national scale. Results indicate over 4,100 at-risk species, including freshwater fishes, invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians, plants, and mammals, occur on or directly adjacent to lands in the FSP (e.g., covered by a stewardship plan), including the leather flower (*Clematis beadlei*) that is endangered in Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Missouri. Eighty species have over half of their known occurrences on FSP land. NatureServe will develop vulnerability assessments and conservation strategies for selected species to help guide management activities. This approach strengthens the delivery of program elements like forest resilience.

In FY 2016, owners managed over 25.8 million acres of non-industrial private forestlands nationwide, according to active Forest Stewardship Plans. Of this total, nearly 13.2 million acres are within high priority landscape areas identified in State Forest Action Plans. In FY 2016, owners managed an additional 2.2 million acres under Landscape Stewardship Plans, and six million acres under a variety of other management plan types supported by the program. Many of these plans are precursors to more comprehensive Forest Stewardship Plans that meet the established national standard.

Monitoring results for FY 2016 confirm that owners are managing over 1.9 million acres of State-defined priority landscapes as recommended in their Forest Stewardship Plans. Additionally, FSP supported outreach to approximately 423,832 landowners in FY 2016, which includes 12,173 active Stewardship Plans and 263,392 landowners involved in other outreach activities, such as one-on-one technical assistance, participation in field days, field-based events, and classes.

Forest Legacy Program

Budget Line Item	Forest Legacy Program				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest Legacy Program					
Annual Appropriations	\$62,347	\$62,229	0	-\$62,229	-100%
Forest Legacy Program Total	62,347	62,229	0	-\$62,229	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	27	27	0	-27	-100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	27	27	0	-27	-100%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Forest Legacy Program			
Acres of environmentally important forests protected from conversion (Annual accomplishment for Discretionary funds)	106,143	95,000	0
Acres of environmentally important forests protected from conversion (Cumulative)	2,611,852	2,749,589	2,749,589
Parcelization of forests avoided (number of parcels prevented) (Discretionary funds)	13,151	5,441	0

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the Forest Legacy program, a decrease of \$62,229,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR. In FY 2018, the Forest Service's focus will be on the maintenance of the existing National Forest System lands.

Program Overview

The Forest Service protects critical forest landscapes threatened by land conversion through the Forest Legacy Program (FLP). The agency protects these lands through conservation easements and fee-simple purchases with partners, including State agencies, private landowners, and other conservation partners (e.g., The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, The Conservation Fund, and other conservation organizations). Forest Legacy projects keep working forests intact, provide public access for recreation opportunities, and protect critical wildlife habitat.

Past Performance

Since its authorization in 1990, the FLP has funded the protection of 2.625 million acres nationwide. These acres include approximately 176,095 acres of water and 3,372 miles of streams that were part of fee-simple land purchases and conservation easements. In FY 2016, the FLP completed 42 transactions, leveraging \$66 million of Federal funds with \$63.3million of non-Federal funds to protect 106,143 acres.

Agency support helped the Georgia Department of Natural Resources acquire the 6,869-acre Lentile Longleaf Pine Tract, securing a significant contiguous longleaf pine tract home to the State's largest but unprotected gopher tortoise population. The tortoise is a candidate for Federal listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but the conservation of this tract could potentially prevent the listing. This outcome could avoid negative impacts on the State's commercial timber industry, commercial activity, and the Department of Defense (DOD) military

installations. The acquisition is part of a pilot initiative of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and with DOD, with the goal of securing important habitat through targeted conservation acquisitions to avoid listing endangered species. This protective action assists DOD with regulatory predictability for their activities. This project represents a successful partnership where multiple entities secured \$3.5 million in FLP funds were leveraged with \$8.5 million of non-Federal funds.

The agency has also engaged in a multi-year effort to update the Program Implementation Guidelines to provide clearer information to partners for more efficient program implementation. The agency worked with State partners to develop these improved guidelines to help ensure they are a valuable program delivery tool. The agency anticipates implementing the final guidelines in FY 2017.

Community Forest and Open Space Conservation

Budget Line Item	Community Forest and Open Space Conservation				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation					
Annual Appropriations	\$2,000	\$1,996	0	-\$1,996	-100%
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Total	2,000	1,996	0	-1,996	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the Community Forestry and Open Space Conservation program, a decrease of \$1,996,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR. In FY 2018, the Forest Service's focus will be on the maintenance of the existing National Forest System lands.

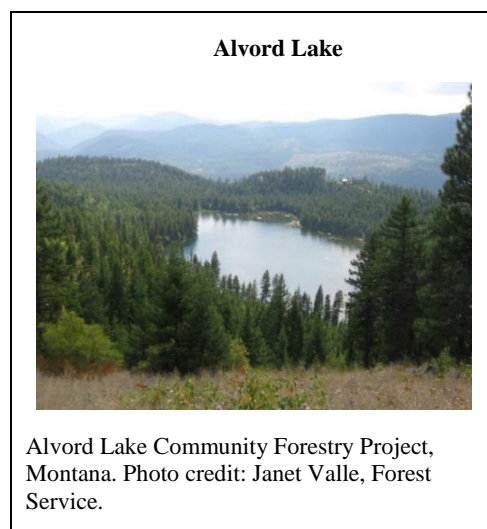
Program Overview

Through the Community Forest and Open Space Conservation program (CFP), the agency provides financial assistance grants to local governments, Indian Tribes and qualified nonprofit organizations (including land trusts) to establish community forest.

Past Performance

Congress authorized the CFP in FY 2008, and the Forest Service issued the final rule and grants for the first 10 projects in FY 2012. In five years, the program has awarded 35 grants and protected 25 tracts of land. Since the inception of CFP, the Forest Service has helped establish or expand 23 community forests and protected more than 9,900 acres.

Among the projects completed in FY 2016 is the Alvord Lake Community Forest Project in northwest Montana, a 142-acre project was funded in FY 2014. The property includes one-third of a mile of shoreline of Alvord Lake and ensures that this portion of the lake will always be accessible to the public, (along with the rest of the shoreline). This property is adjacent to the Kootenai National Forest and locally—owned forest products industry land. The purchasers leveraged a CFP grant of \$400,000 with non-Federal funds to meet the \$1.15 million acquisition. The project resulted from collaboration between a community and a number of partners, and the Vital Ground Foundation, and grant applicant that will own the land. This Foundation has a history of collaborating with multiple partners to protect unique and important lands. The owners will manage the land according to a community forest management plan to restore the native forest and plant species, protect and maintain important wildlife habitat, continue and expand outdoor education, and maintain public use.



The CFP rule is being updated to improve program implementation and administration. Working closely with partners and stakeholders, the agency adjusted rule requirements and clarified language, making specific revisions that allow CFP grantees to take advantage of additional funding sources as a match to Federal funds, as long as the requirements of those funds are consistent with the intent and purposes of the CFP. Additional revisions reduced the administrative burden for applicants by eliminating the draft community forest plan from the application process and

removing the requirement that applicants submit completed grant forms with their applications. The rule now requires that only those applicants selected for funding must fill out additional grant paperwork. The agency expects these changes to increase the number of applicants to the program and improve efficiency in ensuring protection of these important forests.

Urban and Community Forestry

Budget Line Item	Urban and Community Forestry				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Urban and Community Forestry Annual Appropriations	\$28,040	\$27,987	0	-\$27,987	-100%
Urban and Community Forestry Total	28,040	27,987	0	-27,987	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	49	49	0	-49	-100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	49	49	0	-49	-100%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Urban and Community Forestry			
Percentage of people living in communities managing programs to plant, protect, and maintain their urban and community trees and forests.	49.0%	48.0%	0.0%
Percentage of people living in communities developing programs and/or activities to plant, protect, and maintain their urban and community trees and forests.	30.0%	30.0%	0.0%

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the Urban and Community Forestry program, a decrease of \$27,987,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR. In FY 2018, the Forest Service's focus will be on the maintenance of the existing National Forest System lands.

Program Overview

The Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program is delivered in cooperation with State forestry agencies and other national and local partners to provide funding and technical assistance to help communities conserve, protect, and enhance urban forests. Strategic collaboration with Federal agency partners magnifies the impact of the UCF program, leveraging resources and expertise across program boundaries to promote healthy, vibrant communities.

Past Performance

The UCF program supports critical regional planning and strategic collaboration to sustain urban tree canopy benefits across jurisdictional boundaries as major metropolitan regions continue to grow. In FY 2016, the UCF program served more than 200 million people in nearly 8,000 communities through the development and maintenance of urban forestry programs. The agency worked with State forestry agencies and other partners to promote science-based management of urban forest resources in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, U.S. Territories, and affiliated Pacific Island Nations. Each year, State and local UCF partners develop programs and partnerships to expand the reach of Federal dollars.

Through financial and technical support, this program partnered with the Arbor Day Foundation to launch the Energy-Saving Trees program in 2011 to promote urban tree planting and care. As of 2016, this volunteer program delivered over 715,000 young shade trees to utility customers, resulting in reduced energy consumption and costs. Research has found that three strategically placed trees can decrease homeowner utility costs by 50 percent, and that properly placed trees can reduce cooling costs by 30 percent. In FY 2016, the Florida Forest Service expanded this

partnership statewide, partnering with The Arbor Day Foundation to provide homeowners with 10,000 free trees.

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council released its 10-year Action Plan (2016-2026) in 2015, incorporating input from 1000 stakeholders across the country. A collective framework in the Plan guides work with partners. The agency awarded \$900,000 in National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share grants during FY 2016. These grants aligned with the Plan's priorities, and included innovative projects that support community health priorities, including:

- calculating urban forestry's return on investment in terms of health care savings;
- assessing the impact of urban nature on Autism symptoms; and
- providing tools and resources for communities to integrate food-producing trees and plants into the urban landscape, through the community Food Forestry Initiative.

In FY 2016, the agency led a collaboration among six States and the District of Columbia to develop a two-year workplan to implement the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Tree Canopy Strategy. To ensure local governments get credit for tree planting and conservation efforts that contribute towards Chesapeake water quality targets, the UCF partnership developed a new science-based crediting approach that the Environmental Protection Agency and Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions endorse. UCF funding also supported Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in completing an urban tree canopy assessment and plan for the seven-county region where neighborhood groups are piloting new tools to target tree plantings in areas of greatest need.

Arbor Day Foundation 40th Anniversary



In conjunction with the 40th Anniversary of the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program, the Forest Service provided funding to Montana's Department of Natural Resources to build new bridges with Tribal partners in urban forest management. Through this new State partnership initiative, the Blackfeet Community College and United Tribes Technical College became the Nation's first Tribal college participants in the Tree Campus USA program. The project engages Tribal youth in tree plantings, maintenance and inventories, and related education and training. Photo credit: United Tribes Technical College.

International Forestry

Budget Line Item	International Forestry				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
International Forestry Annual Appropriations	\$8,000	\$7,985	\$7,120	-\$865	-11%
International Forestry Total	8,000	7,985	7,120	-865	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	40	40	36	-4	-10%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	40	40	36	-4	-10%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$7,120,000 for International Forestry programs, a decrease of \$865,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$22,000 for Annualization of the FY 2017 pay increase and \$31,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 4 staff years (\$7,985,000 and 40 staff years available in 2017).

The decrease of \$865,000 will be distributed proportionally across budget line item for the remaining funds, \$270,312 will address illegal logging; \$216,250 will support International trade; \$216,250 will address invasive species, and \$162,188 will be used to conserve habitat for U.S. Migratory Species.

Program Overview

The Forest Service Office of International Forestry promotes sustainable forest management globally, and brings important technologies and innovations back to the United States. The program represents the interest of the entire U.S. forestry community and its stakeholders through international engagement. Effective forest management at the global level is necessary to protect American trade interests, such as the ability of domestic timber producers to compete on a level playing field, and to ensure the sustainability of critical domestic and global natural resources. Forest management policy discussions routinely tackle complex issues such as trade, American competitiveness, economic growth, illegal logging, and national security. The program also addresses several critical domestic natural resource conservation issues, including protecting the Nation from invasive species as well as conserving habitat for migratory species of high importance.

International Forestry maintains programs in the following areas¹²:

- Combatting Illegal Logging;
- Supporting American Forestry in International Trade;
- Protecting U.S. Forests from Invasive Species; and
- Conserving Habitat for U.S. Migratory Species.

¹²In addition to the programs described in this Budget Justification, International Forestry implements interagency agreements funded by the Department of State, Agency for International Development, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation. These agreements are comprised of foreign assistance programs, supporting sustainable international development objectives of the partner agencies. The externally-funded foreign assistance programs are distinct from those funded by the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, which support the domestic U.S. forestry community interests through international engagement.

Combating Illegal Logging

Approximately 15 percent of globally-traded forest products are illegally harvested wood. Illegal logging is defined as the harvest, transport, purchase, or sale of wood and wood products in violation of national and international laws. As one of the world's largest international traders in forest products, the U.S. depends on the long-term viability and legitimacy of the forest products markets. However, the U.S. economy loses approximately \$1 billion and over 200,000 jobs annually due to illegal logging. The artificially low price of the illegal harvest leads to an imbalance where markets of legally sourced wood cannot equally compete. These practices threaten the reputations of legitimate forestry producers and discourage sustainable management practices. U.S. industry and environmentalists are united in their fervent opposition to illegal logging. Since International Forestry serves the whole American forestry community, it is critical to engage in policy and technical issues that curb illegal logging.

Beyond the timber industry, illegal logging undermines international governance and rule of law. The various tasks associated with illegal logging (harvesting, shipping, processing, and trading) are usually coordinated through criminal networks. Illegal logging is often linked to a complex web of organized criminal activities, including large-scale bribery and corruption, drugs and arms trafficking, and terrorism. Through this connection, illegal logging should be considered a national security threat.

Supporting American Forestry in International Trade Negotiations

With Commerce estimating global forest products generating an estimated \$253 billion annually, the American forestry community must be comprehensively represented in international trade discussions. International Forestry provides scientific, policy, and coordination support to the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) and the Department of State to ensure that American forestry interests are well-represented.

Protecting the Forests from Invasive Species

Invasive species pose a significant risk to U.S. forests and grasslands, underscoring the need for international collaboration. It is estimated that invasive species already inflict billions of dollars in losses to the U.S. economy, and there are at least 20 destructive forest pests expected to enter the U.S. accidentally through trade in the coming decade. Through collaborations with partner countries globally, International Forestry works to enhance research and monitoring of the most destructive invasive species, such as the emerald ash borer, ambrosia beetle, Asian longhorn beetle, European woodwasps, and the gypsy moth, as well as identification of biological control agents (biocontrols) used to decrease invasive species' competitive advantage over native plants currently impacting forests in the U.S. Without international collaboration, the agency cannot effectively control pests already in the U.S. nor prevent further introductions. Additionally, International Forestry will work with The Nature Conservancy, AmericanHort, and National Wooden Pallet and Container Association to improve first detection and prevention of the spread of invasive species. The coalition will develop educational and outreach resources for use in the North America, China, and the Southeast Asia regions.

International Capacity Building to Curb Illegal Logging



As part of a regional training for Eastern European countries in 2016, Ukrainian foresters demonstrate timber tracking technology at the site of a timber harvest in Western Ukraine.

Research on Invasive Species



The Emerald Ash Borer, native to East Asia, has devastated Ash populations in North America. Forest Service scientists are working with Chinese scientists to identify and test biocontrols to slow its spread and mitigate its damage.

Conserving Habitat for U.S. Migratory Species: Keeping Species off the Endangered Species List

Of the more than 770 bird and other species that migrate to the U.S., over 350 species spend the winter in Latin America. Many of these species face declining populations due to degradation and habitat loss in their winter grounds, directly affecting the investment the U.S. makes in conservation and rehabilitation efforts on both public and private lands a significant expense to the U.S. taxpayers. Investing in habitat conservation protects both public and private landowners from restrictive measures resulting from an endangered designation, and preserves wildlife that U.S. citizens highly value. More than 71 million people fed, photographed, or observed wildlife in 2011, and spent nearly \$55 billion on their activities, with birding representing the majority.

International Forestry works with partner countries to sustainably manage conservation lands and protect wildlife from illicit timber harvests and deforestation. International Forestry also implements community education and outreach programs on the importance of migratory species. Conservation efforts by International Forestry abroad support domestic investment in conservation directly, and reduce the likelihood of more costly interventions.

National Forest System

Appropriation	National Forest System (dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
National Forest System					
Annual Appropriations	\$1,509,364	\$1,506,496	\$1,747,442	\$240,946	16%
National Forest System Total	1,509,364	1,506,496	1,747,442	240,946	16%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	10,830	10,830	11,644	814	8%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	10,830	10,830	11,644	814	8%
National Forest System					
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	40,000	39,924	0	-39,924	-100%
Land Management Planning	36,998	0	0	-3,928	-11%
Inventory and Monitoring	\$147,998	0	0	-15,717	-11%
Land Management Planning, Assessment & Monitoring	0	184,645	165,000	-19,645	-11%
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	261,719	261,222	252,880	-8,342	-3%
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management	140,466	140,199	125,000	-15,199	-11%
Grazing Management	56,856	56,748	50,600	-6,148	-11%
Forest Products	359,805	359,121	359,121	0	0%
Vegetation & Watershed Management	184,716	184,365	174,400	-9,965	-5%
Hazardous Fuels*	0	0	354,288	354,288	100%
Minerals and Geology Management	76,423	76,278	68,000	-8,278	-11%
Landownership Management	77,730	77,582	69,000	-8,582	-11%
Law Enforcement Operations	126,653	126,412	129,153	2,741	2%

*Prior to FY 2018, the Hazardous Fuels budget line item was included under Wildland Fire Management.

Note: Beginning in FY 2017, the Inventory and Monitoring and Land Management Planning budget line items were combined into one budget line item, Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring.

Program Overview

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$1,747,442,000 for the National Forest System (NFS), an increase of \$240,946,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$5,068,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$16,030,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and an increase of 814 staff years (\$1,506,496,000 and 10,830 staff years available in 2017).

The NFS appropriation funds our management of over 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands. By conserving forests and grasslands, the agency provides sustainable timber products and conserves air quality, water, plants, wildlife, and fisheries. The agency facilitates mining, timber, and restoration projects on NFS lands, creating jobs and wealth in rural economies. The agency provides a vast array of recreational opportunities to millions of Americans, including hunting, fishing, camping, and hiking. The agency also partners with local communities and other agencies to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildland fires.

Managing the many natural resources on national forests and grasslands is complex. NFS programs protect and improve water quality, offer recreation opportunities for the public, produce energy for the Nation, support infrastructure like pipelines and cell towers, produce timber and non-timber forest products, maintain open space, and preserve wildlife habitat. These activities are managed to meet the needs of the Nation while maintaining or improving the health of the land and protecting the environment.

The FY 2018 budget requests that the Hazardous Fuels program be moved from the Wildland Fire Management program to the National Forest System program. As most hazardous fuels work takes place on NFS lands, the agency will be able to administer this program more efficiently and effectively if managed as part of the National Forest System.

The FY 2018 budget requests continuation of the Integrated Resources Restoration (IRR) pilot in Regions 1, 3, and 4. For the past six years (FY 2012-FY 2016), the agency embarked on this pilot program to increase efficiency and flexibility to perform integrated watershed protection and landscape-scale restoration. The agency has evaluated the success of the IRR pilot and found that the pilot has provided best practices about how to conduct collaborative budget execution across the agency. The IRR pilot regions have been more successful than non-pilot regions in completing enough restoration projects to change the overall health of the watershed, achieving 60 percent of the total agency improvement in FY 2015, and about 40 percent of improved watersheds in FY 2016. Independent monitors have also found that the IRR's combined budget authority structure encourages more integration among staff and leadership. The agency will continue implementing the lessons of IRR in 2018. As in previous years we will request authority to use "up to" a certain amount from each program for the IRR pilot. The table below shows how much funding from each program will be requested for the IRR pilot.

FY 2018 Integrated Resource Restoration
(dollars in thousands)

Budget Line Items	FY 2018 Amount Requested for Program	FY 2018 Authority Requested for IRR
Wildlife and Fisheries	\$125,000	Up to \$31,360
Vegetation and Watershed	\$174,400	Up to \$50,581
Forest Products	\$359,121	Up to \$65,560
Legacy Roads and Trails	\$0	\$0
Hazardous Fuels	\$354,288	Up to \$24,000

Note: Appropriation language states that up to \$162,000,000 can be used for the IRR Pilot. The totals in this table add up to \$171,501,000; however, the total contributions from the respective budget line item will not exceed \$162,000,000.

Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration

Budget Line Item	Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration					
Annual Appropriations	\$40,000	\$39,924	0	-\$39,924	-100%
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Total	40,000	39,924	0	-\$39,924	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	268	268	0	-268	-100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	268	268	0	-268	-100%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration			
Acres of forest vegetation established	23,985	23,615	0
Acres of forest vegetation improved	67,118	48,755	0
Acres of noxious weeds and invasive plants treated	28,917	23,956	0
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	184	86	0
Acres of terrestrial habitat enhanced	461,381	348,371	0
Volume of timber sold (million board feet (MMBF))	427.0	672.0	0
Number of green tons and/or volume of woody biomass from hazardous fuel reduction and restoration treatments on Federal land that are made available through permits, contracts, grants, agreements, or the equivalent	213,864	650,000	0
Acres of wildland-urban interface (WUI) high-priority hazardous fuels treated	360,079	348,842	0
Acres of hazardous fuels treated outside the Wildland Urban interface to reduce risk of catastrophic fire	280,372	158,794	0
Miles of roads decommissioned	76	187	0
Miles of passenger car system road reconstruction and capital improvement	123	292	0
Miles of high clearance system road reconstruction and capital improvement	195	145	0

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Note: Targets are estimates of annual –outputs/accomplishments from the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program project activities.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration program, a decrease of \$39,924,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR and a decrease of 268 staff years (\$39,924,000 and 268 staff years available in 2017).

Eliminating this program will reduce duplication among Federal programs, as other Forest Service programs also do restoration work on National Forest System (NFS) lands.

Program Overview

The CFLRP was established by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-11, Title IV,) which

authorized landscape-scale restoration to address landscape-scale threats. Per the Act, each landscape must be at least 50,000 acres in size, and projects must promote the resilience and adaptive capacity of ecosystems that have been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.

The Administration is refocusing how Forest Service is managing national forest and grasslands. This realignment is expanding existing efforts by continuing to invest in the projects that are ongoing and not to stray from the agency's core values by attaining new projects. Through this shift of program work, the agency will continue to advance restoration by engaging diverse communities and partners outside of the Forest Service on current projects. Projects that have been selected in prior years and have been allocated funding will continue to support the agency's strategic goals and sustain the Nation's forest and grasslands while mitigating wildfires.

Benefits of Collaboration

The agency completed an assessment of our progress in meeting program goals and presented the results in the CFLRP five-year report released in April 2015. A more thorough discussion may be found in the report at: http://www.fs.fed.us/restoration/documents/cflrp/CFLRP_5-YearReport.pdf. As proposed, the lessons learned from the CFLRP can be applied as appropriate to other restoration activities,

Past Performance

Reducing the Risk of Uncharacteristic Wildland Fire: CFLRP Treatments and the Cold Springs Fire

On the afternoon of July 10, 2016, the Cold Springs Fire burned through approximately 97 acres of NFS land near Nederland, Colorado. This area had been manually treated to reduce hazardous fuels in April 2015 using CFLRP funding. While the slash piles had not yet been burned, this project rearranged a large amount of heavy fuels, increasing the spacing between the tree canopies. When the wildfire hit the unit, fire activity moved from the tree tops down to the ground, allowing fire-fighters to engage the fire and hold it on two sides of the unit. Firefighters who were on the scene believe that the rearrangement of heavy fuels in this unit prevented the fire from causing more spot fires across Boulder Canyon, which would have put thousands more residences in the path of wildfire. Surrounded on all sides by private property, the unit is credited with preventing the destruction of more homes. While there were hundreds of homes along the fire's perimeter, the loss was limited to eight residences.

Ridge Road Unit



Photo of Ridge Road Unit taken by a firefighter at 12:37 July 10th, just before fire moved through the area. Photo Credit: Forest Service.

Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring

Budget Line Item	Land Management Planning, Assessment & Monitoring				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Annual Appropriations					
Inventory and Monitoring	\$147,998	\$147,717	\$0	-\$15,717	-11%
Land Management Planning	36,998	36,928	0	-3,928	-11%
Land Management Planning, Assessment & Monitoring	0	0	165,000	-19,645	-11%
Land Management Planning, Assessment & Monitoring Total	184,996	184,645	165,000	-19,645	-11%
Annual Appropriation FTEs					
Inventory and Monitoring	857	857	0	0	0%
Land Management Planning	224	224	0	0	0%
Land Management Planning, Assessment & Monitoring	0	0	964	-117	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1,081	1,081	964	-117	-11%

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Note: Beginning in FY 2018, the Inventory and Monitoring and Land Management Planning budget line items were combined into one budget line item, Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring.

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Land Management Planning, Assessment & Monitoring			
Number of land management plan amendments underway	23	10	10
Number of land management plan revisions or creations underway	25	32	32
Acres of inventory data collected and acquired	52,744,035	15,000,000	11,259,999
Number of annual monitoring requirements completed	950	1,130	1,130
Number of land management plan assessments completed	27	18	18

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$165,000,000 for the Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring program, a decrease of \$19,645,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$420,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$1,327,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 117 staff years (\$184,645,000 and 1081 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$33,000,000 to continue work on priority land management plans. The decrease in funding and emphasis on priority plans will reduce work on lower priority land management plans, revisions to plans, plan amendments, and assessments. The FY 2018 budget request also proposes \$132,000,000 to inventory approximately 11.3 million acres deemed critical for informing the development and revision of land management plans.

Program Overview

The Land Management Planning, Assessment and Monitoring program is the foundation of the agency's stewardship responsibilities to keep forests and grasslands healthy and resilient. The program helps forests provide the American people with ecosystem services including clean air and water, timber and other resources, access to grazing, outdoor recreation, and more.

Forest Service management occurs around a continuous cycle of assessing, planning, implementing and adjusting programs and projects based on information acquired through integrated inventory and monitoring activities. Land management plans (LMPs) guide management activities on the 154 national forests and 20 grasslands in the National Forest System (NFS). Monitoring and assessment activities provide critical information to inform our management of resources on these lands

Land Management Plan Revision and Amendments

The Land Management Planning component drafts, revises, and amends land management plans (LMPs) required under the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). LMPs provide a long-term vision of the desired conditions and objectives that each National Forest System (NFS) unit hopes to achieve, and a management strategy for how to achieve them. Each forest and grassland collaborates with the public to develop a strategic management plan addressing a wide variety of programs and issues. The LMP is the basis for identifying, prioritizing, and implementing the programs and projects to move the unit towards achieving desired conditions and agency objectives.

The 2012 Planning Rule guides the development and revision of new forest plans, and emphasizes an adaptive management concept and public collaboration. This leads to more effective management by identifying the highest priorities and addressing community needs. The Planning Rule Federal Advisory Committee, made up of a diverse group of interests, helps guide and implement the Planning Rule.

Inventory and Monitoring

The inventory and monitoring component provides the information needed to successfully complete LMP revisions and amendments with data obtained through inventory, monitoring, and assessment activities on national forests and grasslands. These activities support the adaptive management concept in the 2012 Planning Rule, providing a collaborative and science-based framework for creating land management plans that support ecological sustainability and contribute to rural economies. Inventory and monitoring activities ensure that up-to-date information using the best available science is readily accessible and effectively applied. The agency uses this information to manage the programs more effectively, to identify our highest priorities, and to be responsive to community needs. To support the adaptive management work, the agency uses critical information to evaluate results and adjust actions during the assessment, development, and monitoring phases of land management planning, as well as specific projects and programs designed to implement these plans.

The planning and assessment processes have been enhanced by more effective inventory and monitoring as a result of clearly established requirements, efficiencies in data management, data collection standards and protocols, improved analytical tools, and corporate applications designed to make data accessible to managers, partners, and the public. Having quality data and information helps the agency understand the conditions on the land, and the social and economic issues associated with natural resources. Inventory, monitoring, and assessment information also supports agency decision-making at all levels and the prioritization of management actions.

All existing and newly acquired data, including vegetation data obtained from the Forest Inventory and Analysis Program in the Research Program, resides in a centralized repository which supports the efficient implementation of the 2012 Planning Rule and other programs requiring inventory data. Assessments conducted in advance of LMP revisions determine the need to change direction in existing plans. As the agency implements the 2012 Planning Rule, it has been emphasizing meaningful public engagement throughout the planning process, including assessments and ongoing monitoring. The use of “citizen science” (where volunteers can contribute by forming research questions, collecting and analyzing data, or interpreting results) and

Diverse Interests Guide Planning



Committees with members from nearly every occupational group, industry group, and geographic location have played an important role in the accomplishment of the Forest Service mission. Photo Credit: Forest Service

information generated by third-party monitoring are becoming important aspects of this program.

Restoration and other economically and socially important activities could not occur on NFS lands without timely forest plan revisions and updates, informed by ongoing and timely monitoring and assessment activities. Collaborating and engaging with partners and the public is critical to revising forest plans and ensuring the strongest outcomes possible on behalf of the American public.

Past Performance

Plans are Larger-Scale, More Efficient, and Emphasize Public Involvement

LMPs written under the 2012 Planning Rule address issues that cover larger geographic areas over longer time periods. The agency is emphasizing meaningful public engagement throughout all phases of the planning process. The public is being asked to provide information to the agency on site specific, area or forest-wide issues of concern or interest that can assist in completing assessments, developing plan components, monitoring, and implementing projects. As a result, the agency is producing better, more comprehensive plans which will lead to more on-the-ground accomplishments and benefits for the American people. The agency improved efficiency by electronically publishing and e-filing planning and project National Environmental Policy Act documents. These efficiencies, coupled with implementation of lessons learned from initial revision efforts under the new Rule such as streamlining assessments, developing focused plan components, and identifying meaningful monitoring items tied to desired conditions and objectives, will help reduce planning timeframes from five to six years (under the previous planning rule) to an average of three to four years.

Amending and Revising Land Management Plans

The agency continues to amend and revise LMPs to meet the requirements under the 2012 Planning Rule. Current revision and amendment efforts will serve as a model for future plans and revisions. In early FY 2017, the Tongass National Forest completed the first major amendment of a plan completed under the 1982 Planning Rule. These efforts have helped the agency refine its procedures and will serve as a model for future amendments. The agency expects to reach a consistent level of plan revision activity after FY 2017, after many of the “early adopter” revisions under the 2012 Planning Rule are completed, along with several revisions using the previous planning rule procedures. Early adopter forests were the first units implementing the new 2012 Planning Rule requirements. The agency will then be able to support an average of four new revision starts, and have a total of 16 to 20 revisions underway in any given year.

Interagency Planning Collaboration

In September 2015, a multi-year collaborative effort between the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and others culminated in the completion of land management plan amendments that are designed to conserve sage-grouse populations and habitat on NFS lands. Two Records of Decision were signed that approved the desired conditions, standards, and guidelines for 20 plan amendments. In FY 2016, implementation activities began and the agency is currently monitoring the effectiveness of treatments and other activities on the landscape.

New Plan Monitoring Requirements

The agency has completed the transition to the new plan monitoring requirements under the 2012 Planning Rule in 2016. These requirements are for units that are not currently revising their land management plans under the new Rule. Most units transitioned their monitoring plans by the end of FY 2016. All units have had some level of public engagement during their transition process. The agency will continue to work with the remaining units to get their monitoring plans transitioned as soon as possible.

This program also supports the Planning Rule requirement to develop regional broader-scale monitoring strategies. These strategies are intended to identify monitoring questions, indicators, and data sources that can be used on multiple units within a region to meet unit monitoring program requirements under the 2012 Planning Rule. These strategies can also provide an opportunity to integrate monitoring needs across all types (i.e., plans, programs and

projects) and levels (i.e., local, landscape, regional and national) of the agency. The agency has established a pilot in Regions 2 and 3 to establish an approach with a particular focus on utilizing data and information available from partners and other external sources. Other regions have also begun developing processes and identifying questions and indicators that will become part of these regional strategies.

Social, Economic, and Ecological Assessments

By 2018, 25 units revising their plans under the new Rule will have published the results from the multiple unique social, economic, and ecological assessments they conducted to meet the 2012 Planning Rule requirements. Assessments are a key initial step for determining the need to revise or amend plans in response to changing ecological, social, and economic conditions, and for collaborating with the public. Lessons learned/best practices will be used to streamline the assessment process for future LMP revision efforts. These improvement opportunities are being addressed through the agency's efforts to identify and share information on "Lessons Learned" from the first units implementing the new 2012 Planning Rule requirements. The Planning Rule Federal Advisory Committee, made up of a diverse array of interests, was established for planning and plan implementation, and is also reviewing agency work and providing recommendations designed to improve implementation of the assessment requirements.

Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness

Budget Line Item	Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Annual Appropriations	\$261,719	\$261,222	\$252,880	-\$8,342	-3%
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Total	261,719	261,222	252,880	-8,342	-3%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	1,862	1,862	1,799	-63	-3%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1,862	1,862	1,799	-63	-3%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness			
Number of recreation site capacity (PAOT days) operated to standard	67,857,405	70,000,000	67,200,000
Percentage of NFS lands covered by travel management plans resulting in visitor safety, resource protection using best management practices, and less visitor conflict with off-road vehicle usage	96.9%	100.0%	100.0%
Number of recreation special use authorizations administered to standard	17,155	15,500	15,500
Number of wildernesses meeting baseline performance for preserving wilderness character	30	26	26
Number of wild and scenic river areas meeting statutory requirements	44	45	45
Number of heritage programs managed to standard	88	80	80
Heritage program score	5,259	5,260	5,260

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$252,880,000 for the Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness program, a decrease of \$8,342,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$783,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$2,477,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 63 staff years (\$261,222,000 and 1,862 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$252,880,000 to focus on priority projects and activities, including simplifying the permit process to make it easier for the public to access Forest Service lands, improving roads and trails for recreational access, and providing volunteer and work opportunities for youth and veterans. There may be a slight decrease in some agency recreational services, including operations of visitor centers and campgrounds, recreation and tourism planning, providing educational and interpretive programs, and interacting with partner and volunteer groups. The funding decrease will slightly reduce the agency's ability to keep recreation sites operating to minimum standards as compared to FY 2017.

Program Overview

Inspiring Passion for the Land

The Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Program provides the public with opportunities to get outside and enjoy their national forests and grasslands. With nearly 149 million visits annually, recreation is the most common portal through which people connect to Forest Service

Perhaps the rebuilding of the body and spirit is the greatest service derivable from our forests, for what worth are material things if we lose the character and quality of people that are the soul of America?" --Arthur Carhart, Forest Service Landscape Architect, 1919

lands. Outdoor opportunities and experiences promote physical, mental, and spiritual health; enhance community identity and sense of place; help bond family and friends; and foster citizen stewardship of the Nation's forests and grasslands.

Additionally, as visitor spending ripples through the U.S. economy, the Forest Service Recreation program contributes roughly \$10.3 billion to the Gross Domestic Product and sustains about 143,000 full- and part-time jobs. The program also manages Wilderness areas and Wild & Scenic Rivers, which provide experiences for those seeking solitude through remote, pristine settings away from the distractions of a city or town.

The program is extensive, both geographically and in terms of the diversity of our opportunities. The agency is modifying facilities to be available to everyone, including the estimated 57 million Americans with disabilities. More accessible facilities also provide recreation opportunities for senior citizens, large family groups, and families with infant strollers or young children. The agency is committed to inclusive participation for all people, regardless of age or ability. The agency supports and connects with the tourism industry by delivering interesting and inspiring interpretive and educational programs. The agency uses a full array of media, including interpreter-led guided tours internet content, and interactive mobile devices.

Recreation, Tourism, and Public Services

Recreation, Tourism, and Public Services programs provide citizens with continual access to their natural surroundings through a variety of settings, from highly developed recreation facilities to more rugged geographic features. The Forest Service provides a vast number of diverse outdoor recreation opportunities, and maintains the largest system of trails in the Nation, providing visitors with connections between their communities and forests.

The agency reaches an even broader number of visitors by administering "special use" permits to outfitters and guides, whose activities include whitewater rafting, horseback riding, game hunting, youth education trips, and scenic jeep tours. For many Americans, these activities introduce them to their public lands, and the use of outfitters and guides from small businesses provides jobs and income to local communities.

Heritage, Business Management, and Planning

Forest-based recreation contributes greatly to connecting the American people to their natural and cultural heritage. Such connections are critical to building a conservation ethic among Americans. The agency develops web messaging, interpretive products, and special events to enhance visitor interactions, and educates visitors on the Nation's history. For example, the "Passport in Time," program allows the public to work with an archeologist on national forest land, as they dig through soil and explore past settlements or sites with historic character.

The agency shares leadership with other Federal agencies and departments such as the Department of the Interior, as well as nongovernmental organizations and volunteers to provide recreation opportunities seamlessly across the landscape. Partnerships empower citizens to engage with their government, build links to the past, and value their cultural heritage. Partnerships employing Native American youth help build greater Tribal relationships to National Forest System (NFS) lands and agency staff, as youth conduct archaeological surveys and influence agency interpretations of the past. Partners and volunteers support agency efforts in providing quality recreation experiences. These programs enable young people, senior citizens, and veterans to serve and work on public lands and are essential to developing the agency workforce and sustaining these resources for future generations.

The Program Provides:

- 26,740 recreation sites
 - 27 percent of individual units within these sites are accessible
 - 48.3 percent of recreation buildings are accessible
- 157,115 miles of trails
- 27,800 permits for recreation uses requiring special use authorizations
- 362,000 sites with historical and/or cultural significance
- 26 major visitor centers
- 22 National Historic Landmarks
- 36.7 million acres of Wilderness
- 5,000 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers

Visitors participating in activities in areas where user fees are charged can enjoy their experience knowing that a portion of those fees return to the site to help sustain it, stretching limited funds while fostering citizen stewardship and a sense of contribution to national resources and local communities.

Past Performance

In 2016, the Forest Service refocused its efforts on strengthening and deepening connections with the public through priority activities to enhance citizen experiences, services, and benefits. Working in collaboration with a diverse and engaged public, the Forest Service embraces its leadership role as a community member, public land steward, and key service provider of access to public lands. This includes continued travel management planning, the new National Trails Strategy, and lessons learned through the Valuing Outdoor Demonstration Areas as explained below. This work helps the Forest Service to deliver a higher standard of service to the public. Pre-work included the following six priorities:

Enhancing Visitor and Community Benefits

To increase public access and enhance visitor experience on national forests and grasslands, the Forest Service is modernizing access to some recreational activities requiring permits. Currently, it is difficult to keep pace with the requests for recreational activity permits. To address this issue, the agency focused on simplifying the permit authorization processes, modernizing the technology, and embracing a sensible customer service and user-friendly approach through increased workforce capacity and better training. Permit review “strike teams” were mobilized to significantly reduce permit related backlogs (which were reduced by 31 percent). These efforts will enhance guest services overall.

In FY 2016, the agency partnered with ski areas to implement year-round recreation opportunities, facilitating access for an increasingly urbanized and demographically diverse Nation. Outdoor enthusiasts can now look forward to natural resource-based, year-round activities such as zip lines, mountain bike terrain parks and trails, disc golf courses, and rope courses. Benefits to the American public include expanding volunteerism, employment, and access for youth and veterans, while contributing economically to local communities.

Community Service and Volunteer Programs

The agency has a strong legacy of joint stewardship of public lands with citizens. The 21st Century Conservation Service Corps is a natural extension of the work that has occurred on NFS, lands for nearly 50 years, and has been key to the Forest Service ability to achieve its mission. By building capacity to manage volunteers and 21st Century Conservation Service Corps projects, the agency has enabled more Americans to “Get Outside, Grow, and Give Back.” In 2016, the agency provided work opportunities for more than 1,500 youth and veterans. A first-time volunteer or community service experience can carry life-long memories, sometimes even leading people to choose careers in land stewardship.¹³

All segments of the American public have opportunities to be inspired, and to learn about their heritage. Throughout FY 2016, in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act, the agency completed

Enhancing Visitor and Community Benefits

230 MILLION Americans live within 100 miles of a National Forest or Grassland

The National Forest Systems provides:

115,000 activity locations

156,000 miles of trails

380,000 heritage sites

2 MILLION acres of lakes

200,000 miles of fishable streams

36.5 MILLION acres of wilderness

4.4 MILLION camping reservations through Recreation.gov since 2007

122 Wild and Scenic Rivers

136 National Scenic Byways covering 9,100 miles

60 percent of all downhill skiing capacity in the U.S.

Source: “A Sustainable Recreation Future” National Forest Service Recreation Program

¹³ 21st Century Conservation Service Corps (21CSC) and Job Corps. Both 21CSC and Job Corps are examples of public lands corps (PLC). Forest Service PLC programs such as 21CSC are through Volunteers and Service and are operated with partnerships. Job Corps is considered to be part of a USDA operated PLC program and managed by the Forest Service land.

over fifty projects across the Nation, ranging from working with Tribal youth to rehabilitating historic structures.

Digital Innovation

Today, the public receives its information digitally, primarily via mobile devices. The Forest Service has built successful collaborative partnerships with the Discover the Forest and Get to Know Your Forest Programs. These programs use photography in a creative way to encourage young Americans to reconnect to the outdoors through social media. For example, among the Discover the Forest campaign target audience of parents of children age 8-12, use of the website <https://www.DiscoverTheForest.org> has grown significantly since the campaign launched, from three percent in June 2011 to a monthly median of 20 percent between October 2014 and May 2015. These collaborative efforts with the Forest Service are enriching youth experiences by shaping a positive public image of the Nation's forests. The agency also has a digital media campaign, called "It's All Yours – Go Play!" featuring videos of recreational activities on NFS lands. For a sample video, see <https://vimeo.com/118134962>.

Improving Citizen Access through Recreation Roads and Trails

The agency aspires to provide economically critical linkages to forest dependent communities. Recreation trails provide safe, sustainable, and well managed access to a broad spectrum of recreation opportunities and experiences. The agency is providing safe, high quality access for the public to enjoy a wide range of outdoor experiences.

Key Special Places

Special places are designated by Congress and the President, and are loved and celebrated by citizens who visit them. However, if too many people visit or visitation is not properly managed, overuse can compromise the integrity of these sites. To maintain this integrity, the agency has established Demonstration Areas to test new ideas and get feedback from the public. The goal is to determine how to best balance protecting the value of these iconic places while providing opportunities to connect citizens to the land.

Using visitor satisfaction feedback to improve visitation experiences for all Americans-

- On the Coronado National Forest in Arizona, visitor use monitoring data is being used to shape outreach and improve experiences to boost the number of visitors on the forest and to increase the number of Latinos and young people between the ages of 16 and 19.
- The National Visitor Use Monitoring Program helps us improve our customer service by tracking recreational visits to National Forests and Grasslands.

Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers

The four land management agencies that share the responsibility of preserving the character of Congressionally designated Wilderness – the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service - developed a plan to guide Federal Wilderness stewardship priorities for the next five years and beyond. Consistent with the plan, the agency will implement a national monitoring program in FY 2018. This effort will establish a baseline for Wilderness character in all Wilderness areas managed by the agency and evaluate trends over time consistent with the protocols used by the Department of the Interior agencies. The agency also implemented a new performance measure, Wilderness Stewardship Performance (WSP,) that evaluates the agency's progress at taking the stewardship actions necessary to "preserve Wilderness character." This measure provides flexibility for local staff to choose ten elements from a broader set of 20 that most closely reflect local stewardship priorities while using a consistent framework to compare results across the country. The agency funded 77 field stewardship projects in FY 2016 to improve Wilderness character, and invested directly in building capacity in partners through grants to the National Wilderness Stewardship Alliance.

The agency provided national funding to assist the Regions with the completion of boundary legal descriptions and final maps, as required by law, resulting in the completion of sixteen Wilderness, seven Wild and Scenic River (WSR) corridors, and one Wilderness study area boundary package. These documents provide the legal basis for boundary protection, and serve as a template for future land transactions. They are required by law and provide the spatial and legal descriptions important to maintaining the integrity of Wilderness and Wild & Scenic Rivers within the NFS. Establishing legal boundaries helps prevent conflicting land claims, and

"...to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."
- 1964 Wilderness Act

provides critical information for line officers and managers to protect and preserve these specially designated areas.

In FY 2016, 16 percent (20 of 125) of WSRs managed by the Forest Service or flowing through NFS lands successfully met statutory requirements under the national WSR performance measure.¹⁴ Planning and active management efforts delivered benefits to the public through protection and enhancement of river values such as clean water, free-flowing condition, and river-related recreation. The agency is also planning to utilize the 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 2018 as a unique opportunity to both raise public awareness about the importance of WSRs and strengthen efforts to manage these valued river resources.

¹⁴This drop from 35 percent (43 of 122) accomplishment in FY 2015 was due to changes in Forest Service reporting instructions for the national WSR performance measure that are intended to enhance the accuracy of reported information related to river planning requirements under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. These instructional changes will also help the agency to strategically invest funds in priority WSR work in a manner that will lead to significant and sustained improvements in performance measure accomplishments and WSR stewardship efforts in the future.

Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management

Budget Line Item	Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management					
Annual Appropriations	\$140,466	\$140,199	\$125,000	-\$15,199	-11%
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management Total	140,466	140,199	125,000	-15,199	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	749	749	667	-82	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	749	749	667	-82	-11%
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management					
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management	140,466	140,199	125,000	-15,199	-11%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management			
Number of watersheds moved to an improved condition class	21	22	19
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	3,214,598	2,900,000	2,400,000

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$125,000,000 for the Wildlife and Fisheries program, a decrease of \$15,199,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$290,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$918,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 82 staff years (\$140,199,000 and 749 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$125,000,000 to work on the most critical aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Projects will be designed to benefit multiple species where possible. The funding decrease (-\$7,599,500 for aquatic habitat; -\$7,599,500 for terrestrial habitat) will reduce the number of watersheds targeted for improvement from 22 watersheds in FY 2017 to 19 in FY 2018, and reduce the targeted number of acres treated to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience from 2.9 million in FY 2017 to 2.4 million in FY 2018.

Program Overview

The Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management program protects, restores, and enhances habitats for wildlife, fish, and rare plants for sustainable use and enjoyment by the public. The program improves wildlife and fish habitat; range, forest, grassland, and watershed conditions; water quality, quantity, and timing of stream flows; and helps offset the impact of drought to critical habitats.

National forests and grasslands provide some of the country's best remaining habitat for over 420 threatened and endangered species, and another 3,100 species listed as sensitive or species of conservation concern by the Forest Service and States. In the lower 48 States, National Forest System (NFS) lands contain the majority of habitat left for rare, wide-ranging carnivores including the grizzly bear, Canada Lynx, and North American wolverine. They also contain some of the Nation's most economically valuable cold-water fish populations.

Restoring and Protecting the Quality of Watersheds through Sustainability

Restoring ecosystems ensures that vital amenities such as clean water and recreational opportunities are available to society. By keeping aquatic habitats healthy, the agency protects community water supplies, reducing the need for communities to install expensive water treatment facilities.

Healthy watersheds also retain soil, reducing the need for communities to fund costly projects to remove sediment clogging reservoirs.

National forests and grasslands are most successful when ecosystems make watersheds more resilient to ecological disturbance, restore and preserve quality fish and wildlife habitat, and support plant and animal biodiversity. Robust aquatic populations, such as salmon species, also support important commercial fisheries making vital contributions to local economies. Strong wildlife and fish populations are critical in supporting vibrant outfitter and guide industries that help power local economies.

National Forests Protect Significant Fish and Wildlife Habitat

- 2 million acres of lakes
- 5 million acres of wetlands
- 10 million acres of fishable lakes
- 425 threatened/endangered species
- 220,000 miles of fishable streams
- >28 million acres of wild turkey habitat
- 80 percent of all elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goat habitat in the continental U.S.
- 50 percent of the Nation's premier trout and salmon habitat
- Over 450 migratory birds nest on National Forest lands

To be successful, the agency uses an integrated approach to achieve multiple resource objectives, and works at large enough scales to restore meaningful ecologic functions. Working at the landscape or watershed scale, and involving multiple disciplines and partners is critical when natural resource issues cross land ownership, jurisdiction, and community boundaries. The Wildlife and Fish Programs bring together land managers from diverse disciplines (biologists, foresters, botanists, ecologists, engineers, etc.) to determine restoration needs using a landscape-scale approach. Under this approach, these land managers assess multiple natural resource needs across large geographic areas; collaboratively determine priorities for restoration; and identify the resources needed to restore and improve the area's ecological condition.

While the Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management program emphasizes landscape-scale restoration, it also supports focused, site-specific actions as needed. These may include removing dangers to threatened or endangered species, or addressing sediment from washed-out road segments adversely affecting aquatic habitats.

The program also supports youth engagement and recreation through conservation and education activities such as the NatureWatch program. These activities include developing and maintaining permanent wildlife viewing sites, providing conservation education, providing viewing opportunities, and the development and sponsorship of local and national events such as *Kids' Fishing Day* and *International Migratory Bird Day* programs. There are hundreds of other NatureWatch activities implemented that connect people with "all things wild" on the national forests and grasslands.

The Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management program has an extensive network of collaborators and long-term partners including Federal and State agencies, Tribal governments, nongovernmental organizations, and local communities, which help power our program annually. Successful partnerships and collaborative efforts have led to the restoration of millions of acres of terrestrial habitat, and thousands of miles of streams for imperiled, common, and economically significant species throughout the Nation. These partnerships have increased our capacity to manage habitat through sizeable contributions of matching funds and in-kind support from external partners. For decades, the agency has worked closely with State wildlife agencies, local communities, civic organizations, and national conservation-oriented organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, Trout Unlimited, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Forest Foundation, American Rivers, American Fisheries Society, American Sport Fishing

Hunters, anglers, and wildlife viewers spend \$7.7 billion annually for their activities and equipment used for recreation on National Forest System (NFS) lands. These expenditures supported 189,000 jobs and \$878 million in Federal income tax receipts in our most recent economic analysis.

Association, The Wilderness Society, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wildlife Forever, Ducks Unlimited, The Wildlife Society, and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Past Performance

The program's ecosystem restoration efforts, along with coordinated efforts from other programs, are maintaining strong fish and wildlife populations important to the American public. Robust fish and wildlife populations are essential to support the economic drivers so important to many local communities. Each year the activities of hunters, anglers, and wildlife viewers contribute billions of dollars to local communities and support tens of thousands of jobs.

The agency has increased the number of watersheds improved each year, more than doubling what was achieved as recently as FY 2014. From FY 2012 to FY 2016, the Forest Service moved more than 71 watersheds to an improved condition class, and has ongoing work in over 150 other priority watersheds.

In FY 2016, Wildlife and fisheries habitat work improved over 3,800 miles of stream habitat, 39,000 acres of Lake Habitat, and enhanced over 2.9 million acres of terrestrial habitat. Overall, the agency completed critical conservation actions for over 200 listed threatened and endangered species.

The agency also measures the number of acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience. This measure captures the "footprint" of treatments accomplished through many restoration actions and programs, including activities supported by other agency programs. For the last three years including FY 2016, the agency has accomplished 2.7 to 3.2 million acres of restoration treatments each year. In FY 2016, the Wildlife Habitat Management Program continued to significantly contribute to these total acres accomplished, enhancing over 1.3 million acres.

Environmental Impacts Are Outpacing Restoration

Under the agency's Watershed Condition Framework, the condition of the Nation's watersheds are reevaluated every five years to determine if restoration efforts are keeping pace with the impacts of catastrophic environmental impacts, such as large scale fires and floods. A reassessment of Forest Service watersheds was completed in FY 2016. The agency's integrated restoration efforts have made significant progress, moving more than 71 watersheds to an improved condition class. For the first time, 53 percent of agency watersheds are in properly functioning condition.

While restoration efforts continue to improve overall watershed conditions at a national scale, in some parts of the country tree mortality, insects, disease, large scale fires, and floods have significantly degraded overall watershed conditions, with some regions having more than 50 fewer watersheds in fully functional condition than in 2011 (when the watershed conditions were last assessed). In these areas, agency restoration efforts have not been keeping pace with the environmental impacts of these stressors. The size and severity of fires during an active fire season impact the Forest Service's ability to improve the condition of watersheds. Specifically, large wildfires across multiple watersheds can offset the benefits of active restoration occurring in priority watersheds. In FY 2015 alone, the most recent year with data about the impacts of the large-scale fires, the agency identified over \$182 million in post-fire restoration needs. Wildfires create revegetation needs, while at the same time the program is trying to provide timber, clean water, pollinator forage, wildlife habitat, safe recreational experiences, and carbon sequestration benefits.

Restoring Wildlife Habitat

The wildlife program continued to restore landscape-scale ecosystem function and re-connect wildlife habitats by protecting migration corridors for a host of important species, such as grizzly bear, mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, and sage-grouse. Restoring habitat is crucial for conserving at-risk species and recovering species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

The Forest Service played a critical role in interagency conservation efforts on the sagebrush steppe ecosystem, helping restore habitat for the Greater Sage-Grouse and more than 350 other species that depend on the ecosystem. Due in part to the work by the Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and many other partners, in 2016 the Secretary of Interior announced that the Greater Sage-Grouse did not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act.

The Forest Service worked closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and State forestry and wildlife resource agencies to monitor bat populations in light of the devastating impacts of white-nose syndrome caused by an invasive species. Through an interagency effort, the entities developed and published a national protocol for monitoring bats - the North American Bat Monitoring Program. The agency is continuing to further research efforts to offset the effects on critical bat populations. In spite of efforts to stem the spread of white nose syndrome, in FY 2016, monitoring efforts showed this devastating disease has now expanded to bat populations in the West.

Restoring Rivers and Streams

Restoring streams improves habitat for threatened, endangered, and sensitive aquatic species, as well as habitat for native and non-native species that communities value for commercial, non-commercial, or recreational purposes. Sometimes, this means restoring the ability for fish and other aquatic creatures (such as salamanders, frogs, and crayfish) to move upstream or downstream under roads. The agency continues to work with a variety of partners to improve crossings at road and stream intersections (culverts and bridges) for aquatic organism passage. Other mechanisms to reconnect waters on and adjacent to NFS lands include redesigning irrigation diversions, removing invasive species, and removing old dams. In FY 2016, the agency began a pilot partnership project with American Rivers in the southeastern U.S. to prioritize over 2,000 aging dams on Forest Service lands for removal to improve watershed health, restore habitat connectivity for fish and freshwater mussels, and reduce human safety risk from dam failures.

Engaging the Next Generation



Children learn about Aquatic Species on Forest Service Lands. Photo Credit: U.S. Forest Service

Conservation Education - Connecting People with Nature

A key component of accomplishing the agency strategic goal of connecting people to the outdoors is achieved through Nature Watch programs. In 2016, more than 350 fishing derbies and events were held, reaching an estimated 150,000 children and adults in celebration of National Fish and Boating Week. The Nature Watch program is one of the most significant ways in which the agency connects people with nature, helping to educate the public on the value and importance of NFS lands.

In FY 2016, external partners helped the agency complete thousands of fish and wildlife projects on national forests and grasslands. The Forest Service investment of approximately \$16.5 million was matched with the dollar and in-kind value of partner contributions totaling over \$60 million. The agency continues to build key partnerships with Tribal governments and associations –partnerships among Tribes and the Forest Service are growing around salmon habitat restoration in the Columbia River and Puget Sound basins, wet meadow restoration in the Sierras, salmon monitoring and management for subsistence use in Alaska, and threatened and endangered species management in the Southwest.

Salmon Harvest Depends on Healthy Forest System Lands

Salmon contribute significantly to Alaska's economy. Almost half of the pink salmon harvested originate from the temperate rain forest streams of the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska. The State's sustainable commercial fishing regulations and the Tongass National Forest's largely healthy watersheds and stream habitat contribute to the production of these prolific wild pink salmon populations. Photo Credit: Alaska Region, U.S. Forest Service

Hazardous Fuels

Budget Line Item	Hazardous Fuels				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Hazardous Fuels					
Annual Appropriations	0	0	\$354,288	\$354,288	100%
Hazardous Fuels Total	0	0	354,288	354,288	100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	0	0	1,715	100	100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	1,715	100	100%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Hazardous Fuels			
Acres of wildland-urban interface (WUI) high-priority fuels treated	2,016,049	1,800,000	1,710,000
Acres of Fuels Mitigated on NFS Lands	866,113	1,300,000	1,235,000
NFS acres of fuels mitigated in the WUI	617,919	1,000,000	950,000
Percent of treated acres identified in Community Wildfire Protection Plans or equivalent plans.	81.0%	80.0%	80.0%

(1) National Forest System acres of fuels mitigated in the wildland-urban interface is a subset of Acres of Fuels Mitigated on NFS lands.

(2) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Note: Prior to FY 2018, Hazardous Fuels was under Wildland Fire Management.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$354,288,000 for the Hazardous Fuels program, a decrease of \$20,000,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$746,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$2,361,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 100 staff years (\$374,288,000 and 1,815 staff years available in 2017 in the Wildland Fire Management appropriation).

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$354,288,000 to fund priority areas near communities that reduce risk to communities and firefighters and increase resilience of forests to catastrophic fire.

The FY 2018 budget requests that the Hazardous Fuels program be moved from the Wildland Fire Management program to the National Forest System (NFS) program. As all Hazardous Fuels work takes place on NFS lands, the agency will be able to administer this program more efficiently and effectively as part of NFS.

Program Overview

The Hazardous Fuels program reduces high fuel loads in forests and contributes to restoring forest health and resilience. Managing hazardous fuels loads is critical to protect the American public, provide for firefighter safety, and conserve the Nation's natural resources. Healthy, resilient landscapes have a greater capacity to adapt to and withstand natural disturbances and large-scale threats to sustainability.

When treating hazardous fuels, the agency uses a wide range of tools including prescribed fire, mechanical fuels reduction, and thinning activities. These treatments also provide strategic opportunities to increase the capability to manage wildfire for resource benefits. Strategic investments reduce severe wildfire effects in high-risk areas,

including those areas disturbed by drought, severe wildfires, or uncharacteristically large insect and disease outbreaks. Such disturbances cause millions of dollars in damage and limit our ability to obtain economically viable products from the forests. Reducing long-term risk requires setting priorities, acceptance of short-term risk, and greater collective investment.

Many ecosystems are “fire-adapted” and need periodic fire disturbance to be healthy and resilient. The Hazardous Fuels program reduces fuel buildup, re-introduces fire onto the landscape, and increases opportunities for natural ignitions to meet land management objectives.

The agency completes fuels treatment effectiveness assessments for every wildfire that starts in, or intersects with, a fuels treatment area. These assessments show fuels treatments modify fire behavior, prevent private property loss, and provide a safer working environment for fire management personnel. These assessments also help the agency understand the effects of hazardous fuels treatments on fire behavior, fire severity, and fire suppression effectiveness. The agency is also incorporating spatial data for fuels treatments into the Wildland Fire Management Decision Support System, improving data availability to help support wildfire incidents and inform risk management decisions.

The Hazardous Fuels program is a key component of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy). The program contributes to restoring and maintaining resilient landscapes, creating fire adapted communities, and improving response to wildfires. Hazardous fuels reduction is often the most effective way to protect community values, restore forest and grassland health, improve firefighter and public safety, and prevent the need for costly fire response operations. Hazardous fuels management requires skilled workers, whether through prescribed fire or mechanical treatments, thus serving as an important source of jobs.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, the Hazardous Fuels program piloted new performance measures to identify key outcomes of hazardous fuels treatments. In addition to acres treated, the agency is reporting: 1) acres where all planned treatments are completed and the fuels are in the desired condition relative to risk (acres mitigated); 2) percent of naturally ignited wildfire acres that have an ecological or risk benefit; and 3) an index of relative ‘fire risk’ based on the likelihood of a large fire negatively impacting highly valued resources.

Developing desired conditions often requires multiple treatments on the land. To better capture not only where the agency is treating acres, but where treatments have achieved desired condition of increased resilience and reduced risk, the agency initiated the “acres mitigated measure”. In FY 2016, the agency mitigated hazardous fuels on over 866,000 acres of NFS lands, including almost 618,000 acres in the wildland-urban interface (WUI).

In 2016 the agency funded and helped conduct fuels treatments on more than 3.2 million high priority acres nationwide, focusing on areas with highly valued resources like communities, areas of high fire potential, and areas where the agency could alleviate risk most effectively.

In 2016, the agency continued evaluating the risk to communities and monitoring the effectiveness of fuels treatments to ensure it addressed the highest priority acres where risk could be most effectively reduced. The agency worked towards an environment where wildland fire management is safer and more effective, and towards creating healthy landscapes that help maintain our Nation’s natural resource wealth and provide places for the public to visit. Assessments of fuels treatment effectiveness show that 91 percent of treatments were effective in changing fire behavior and/or helping to control wildfire in FY 2016.

**Cedar Fire, Sequoia National Forest, California
(2016)**



Fire moved from the untreated area below the road (right) into an area treated by thinning and pile burning above the road (left). Visual evidence suggests that fire intensity was reduced from an active crown fire below the road to intermittent crown fire and eventually surface fire as the fire continued uphill through the treated area.

In 2016, the Forest Service field-verified that more than 932,000 acres burned by naturally-ignited wildfires. Fire on these lands met land management objectives - they moved ecosystems toward specific desired conditions for forests and grasslands. Satellite imagery, burn severity maps, and site-specific data helped to assess the effects of each fire. Naturally-ignited wildfires that benefit ecosystems continue to be an important part of the total Hazardous Fuels program, and the acres treated each year vary with fire season activity.

In FY 2016, the agency expanded partnerships with Federal, State, and private partners to reach across boundaries and address risk on a landscape scale. For example, the Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service continued the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership. In FY 2016, 11 new projects, along with the 28 projects that began in 2014 and 2015, collaboratively implemented mitigation activities on Federal and non-Federal lands. These reduced wildfire threats to communities and landowners, protected water quality and supply for communities and industry, and improved habitat quality for at-risk or ecosystem surrogate species. The agency also funded over 90 other projects where risk of wildfire is high, communities are actively engaged, and in some cases, merchantable timber volume had been produced. These projects focused on reducing fire risk to communities, but also provided benefits to wildlife, water quality, and local economies.

The agency continues to focus on targeting fuels treatments in those communities that are working to prepare for wildland fire, including communities that have a community wildfire protection plan (CWPP) in place. The agency worked closely with communities to identify their priority areas for treating hazardous fuels. Over 80 percent of the WUI acres treated were in areas covered by CWPPs or an equivalent.

Wood Innovation Grants

The continued investment in wood energy and wood products is focused on secure, sustainable, renewable energy sources; stronger rural economies; and more acres of hazardous fuels treated. Since 2005, this program has awarded over \$62 million to over 240 grant recipients, including small businesses, non-profits, Tribes, and State agencies.

In FY 2016, State and Private Forestry awarded over \$8.3 million in Wood Innovation Grants to substantially expand and accelerate wood energy and wood products markets throughout the United States to support forest management needs on NFS and other forest lands. These Federal funds leveraged over \$18 million in partner investments resulting in a total investment of over \$26 million.

The 2016 establishment of 22 Statewide Wood Energy Teams and six Statewide Wood Utilization Teams helped identify and promote wood utilization opportunities across the country. This model is increasing the number and diversity of organizations across all public and private sectors to promote these critical markets. For example, since the California Forest Biomass Working group established a Statewide Wood Energy Team, meeting participation in the working group increased by 70 percent. The Working Group has members from government agencies, businesses, non-profits, Tribes, and other organizations that help promote wood utilization opportunities.

Another Forest Service initiative has been supporting the introduction of cross-laminated timber (CLT) into the domestic marketplace. The Forest Service has helped companies assess the feasibility of producing CLT; supports architects, engineers, and developers to learn how to use CLT; and helped launch a successful national Tall Wood Building Prize Competition. In 2015, two competition winners were announced: a 10-story condominium in New York City, and a 12-story mixed-use building in Portland, Oregon. All of these actions are contributing to increased use of CLT as a building material in the domestic commercial building market. Since 2015, there has been nationwide interest in mass timber technologies, including CLT. Work is currently being done to examine building codes changes for tall wood buildings; determine the blast resistance of CLT for the Department of Defense applications; and examine how to use more beetle-kill material in the CLT panels, among other activities.

Wood Energy and Building with Wood

The Hazardous Fuels program funds grants through the Wood Innovations Grant Program. Since FY 2005, the Hazardous Fuels program has provided funding to help build capacity for biomass utilization in support of fuels reduction and landscape restoration. In FY 2016, over \$8.3 million was awarded to fund 41 proposals, resulting in a leveraging of over \$18 million. In FY 2015, over \$9 million was awarded, resulting in a leveraging of over \$26

million. The agency coordinated this funding with USDA Rural Development programs, increasing overall investments. Using biomass residues from hazardous fuels treatments for renewable energy increases national energy security, reduces energy costs, and improves rural economic vitality and air quality. Expanding markets and demand for innovative wood building products, like CLT, can increase market value and offset hazardous fuels treatment costs.

Grazing Management

Budget Line Item	Grazing Management				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Grazing Management Annual Appropriations	\$56,856	\$56,748	\$50,600	-\$6,148	-11%
Grazing Management Total	56,856	56,748	50,600	-6,148	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	428	428	381	-47	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	428	428	381	-47	-11%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Grazing Management			
Allotment acres administered to 100% of Forest Plan standards	29,711,012	27,000,000	24,000,000
Number of grazing allotments with signed decision notices	52	100	90

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$50,600,000 for the Grazing Management program, a decrease of \$6,148,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$166,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$525,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 47 staff years (\$56,748,000 and 428 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$50,600,000 to maintain the administration of grazing permits and the completion of the National Environmental Policy Act decisions at slightly reduced levels from FY 2017. The agency will continue to invest in restoration and management of rangelands to be resilient to threats such as insects, drought, and disease, and to support livestock grazing and strong rural communities.

Program Overview

The Grazing Management program maintains and restores rangelands that are healthy and resilient, while also supporting rural ranchers and farmers who rely on these lands for their livelihoods. The program manages diverse landscapes on approximately 100 million acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands, and administers grazing use on approximately 10 million acres of private land. The program supports rural communities, maintains a sustainable supply of forage for livestock, and also protects open space and wildlife habitat. Proper management of grazing use was one of the core reasons for the establishment of forest reserves that eventually became the NFS. Development and implementation of proper grazing practices and the protection and stewardship of rangeland resources remains a significant focus in managing these public lands.

The Grazing Management program manages nearly 6,000 permits held by ranchers and farmers across 29 states. Livestock grazing on NFS lands contributes, on average, over 14,000 jobs and \$706 million to the Nation's economy each year.

Properly managed rangelands provide secure sources of food and water, and provide wildlife habitat and other natural resources benefits. Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the agency conducts environmental planning to inform grazing allotment and permit administration. Decisions based on thorough NEPA analyses ensure that livestock grazing strategies provide for the restoration and long-term health of rangelands, while continuing to provide essential goods (like quality grazing fodder) and ecosystem services (like healthy soil, clean water, and wildlife habitat). The program incorporates adaptive management—an iterative process using lessons learned to improve long-run management outcomes—into grazing NEPA decisions, which provides flexibility for the permit holders while ensuring the agency meets desired environmental conditions. This supports ecosystem improvement by properly adapting timing and use of rangeland grazing to meet the agency supports the ranching community while continuing to protect the long-term ability of public rangelands to provide resource benefits.

National forests and grasslands establish management standards for grazing in their land management plans, and administer permits to meet those standards. By administering grazing permits in compliance with these standards, the agency ensures that grazing on NFS lands provides for secure food sources while being managed for ecosystem resilience, and that water resources associated with grazing allotments are managed for sustained quality and quantity. Allotment administration also assures that management decisions identified during the NEPA process are implemented, achieve desired outcomes, or are adjusted if initial actions are not effective.

Past Performance

An important part of maintaining and restoring rangelands is conducting thorough NEPA analyses on grazing allotments. Completion of the NEPA analysis—and the resulting signed decisions—gives the agency a path forward to manage the land as needed to meet the forest plan standards, including the needs of local communities.

With the complexity of NEPA analyses, it is crucial to build partnerships with the many stakeholders interested in rangeland management, including permit holders, non-profit groups, and Federal, State, local and Tribal agencies. Partnerships can build trust between different groups. This can take time and effort, but also leads to mutual understanding. By collaborating with stakeholders, the agency can find common ground on solutions to range management issues, and may help reduce the chances of litigation challenges to the NEPA analyses. Some partnerships even help fund Forest Service work, and help the agency obtain comprehensive data to support decisions. Collaborative working relationships are critical to the long-term success of range management programs.

Forests across the country have made significant strides in leveraging funds and partnerships using Environmental Quality Incentive Program funds from the Natural Resources Conservation Service in cooperation with agency permit holders to fund rangeland habitat and structural range improvements. These projects are able to achieve multiple resource benefits while bolstering the ability to build and maintain structural improvements such as fences.

Some forests are effectively using state wildlife agency funds for grassland habitat improvement projects. Forests

The Diversity of Rangelands



Rangelands are diverse – from the wet grasslands of Florida and the desert shrub ecosystems of Wyoming, to the high mountain meadows of Utah and the desert floor of California. Photo Credit: Forest Service Rangelands Program

Local Partners Help Manage Grazing



The Hector Grazing Association helps manage grazing on the Finger Lakes National Forest in New York. Photo Credit: Forest Service

are also partnering in joint monitoring efforts. Additionally, the agency is implementing efficiencies, like combining multiple allotments into one large decision where feasible.

In 2016, the agency continued to place emphasis on administering allotment acres to forest plan standards, a key performance measure to ensure healthy rangelands. Maintaining a focus on monitoring and on-the-ground administration resulted in the program continuing to meet expectations for these activities.

Forest Products

Budget Line Item	Forest Products				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Forest Products					
Annual Appropriations	\$359,805	\$359,121	\$359,121	0	0%
Forest Products Total	359,805	359,121	359,121	0	0%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	2,485	2,485	2,480	-5	-0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2,485	2,485	2,480	-5	-0%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Forest Products			
Number of watersheds moved to an improved condition class	21	22	19
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	3,214,598	2,900,000	2,400,000
Volume of timber sold (million board feet (MMBF))	2,942	3,200	3,200

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$359,121,000 for the Forest Products program, the same level as the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$1,079,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$3,414,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of five staff years (\$359,121,000 and 2,485 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$359,121,000 to support jobs, contribute to local economies, and create healthy landscapes and communities. In FY 2018, the agency has set a target of a total volume sold of 3.2 billion board feet. To meet this goal, the Forest Service is also using key authorities from the Agricultural Act of 2014 to address insect and disease issues, emphasizing using the timber sale pipeline authority to increase the volume of timber prepared for future sales, and working to align our timber offerings with current market conditions.

Program Overview

The Forest Products program is a key part of the agency's integrated restoration efforts to create healthy, resilient landscapes, and communities. It also provides associated jobs and economic benefits. Forest products include timber, pulpwood, biomass, firewood, Christmas trees, seeds, and other products harvested for commercial uses, personal subsistence, and Tribal practices. Timber sales are an important tool for accomplishing resource management objectives on National Forest System (NFS) lands in an ecologically and economically efficient manner while generating revenue to offset the costs of implementation. Stewardship contracting, also funded within this program, received permanent authority in the Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill). By using the value of forest products to offset the cost of services, stewardship contracting is an effective means to restore land and natural resources while promoting a closer working relationship with local communities. Funding for the program is used to plan and prepare timber sales, complete analyses under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and implement and administer sales using contracts, agreements, and permits.

Forest Products are:

- Timber
- Pulpwood
- Biomass
- Firewood
- Christmas trees
- Seeds
- Other products harvested for commercial, personal subsistence, and Tribal practices.

Timber sales and stewardship projects can both reduce the density of trees and change the type of trees in the forest. This can improve the vigor and health of forests, and improve wildlife habitat for multiple species. Additionally, timber sales and stewardship contracts can help with multiple goals, including restoring large-scale watersheds by reducing fuels that create an unacceptable fire risk, recovering timber value following natural disturbances, and preparing sites for vegetation to regenerate. Timber sales and stewardship contracts can also be used to reduce insect and disease infestations, improve resilience to drought, and improve tree growth to produce desirable timber products in the future.

The suite of activities associated with timber sales and stewardship contracting provides employment opportunities for sustaining local communities while providing a wide variety of forest products for industry and the public. In FY 2016, the Forest Service served the public with over 260,000 forest product permits from over 1,000 timber sale or stewardship contracts with a value of just over \$186 million. The program is critical to local economies, generating over 43,000 jobs and about \$3.2 billion of gross domestic product in our most recent economic analysis. With the help of Research and Development, the Forest Products Laboratory, and industry partners, the agency continues to explore methods to use forest product outputs for a wide variety of value-added products, including new engineered wood products being used in tall buildings.

Benefits of Forest Products

- 1,000 Timber Sale and Stewardship Contracts, worth over \$186 million
- 43,000 jobs created
- Contributes \$3.2 billion dollars to the Nation's economy

Past Performance

Helping Sustain Local Economic Activity

In FY 2016, the Forest Service approved over 260,000 forest permits from over 1,000 timber sale or stewardship contracts with a value of just over \$186 million. The program helps sustain local economics, generating over 43,000 jobs and about \$3.2 billion of gross domestic products in our most recent economic analysis.

Measuring Restoration Outcomes

In FY 2016, the agency accelerated restoration work toward achieving a timber output level of 3.2 billion board feet—a challenging level last achieved in the late 1990's. Several challenges prevented the agency from reaching its goal, including a number of timber sales which received no bids, challenging market conditions in some regions, and NEPA and litigation delays in other regions—driving a final result of 2.94 billion board feet of timber sold. To deliver higher outputs, the agency has recruited and developed a skilled workforce, made use of planning efficiencies authorized by Congress, improved scheduling of timber sales, and invested in technology.

Optimizing Our Workforce

One key focus of the program has been rebuilding workforce capacity - hiring and training additional timber sale administrators and other needed specialists, such as silviculturists, to increase capacity to plan and implement projects. Because it can take a considerable amount of time to fully train new employees, the agency also improved the flexibility of its existing workforce, and leveraged experienced personnel within and across regions. For example, the Northern Region set up a “strike team” to work on projects across the region. The strike team assisted the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in the Intermountain Region to implement a salvage sale that would not otherwise have been completed last year.

Using Farm Bill Authorities

The Forest Service is also using authorities provided in the 2014 Farm Bill. The Good Neighbor Authority, which allows States to restore watersheds and manage forests on NFS lands via agreements or contracts, was permanently authorized in the 2014 Farm Bill. In FY 2016, Wisconsin became the first state to sell and administer timber sales on a National Forest (Chequamegon-Nicolet) using this permanent authority. Stewardship contracting continues to be an important tool. Finally, by using “designation by prescription,” the Forest Service is conducting timber sales

more efficiently. Traditionally, the Forest Service marks trees individually for harvest by a contractor. With designation by prescription, the Forest Service defines the ecological goal of the restoration work (e.g., the prescription) and the contractor may decide the best way to achieve the desired end results. The contractor decides which trees to harvest, and the Forest Service does not have to mark individual trees before the timber sale, saving the agency time and labor costs.

Improving Timber Sale Offers

The agency is also improving the schedule of timber sales. Because it takes a long time to plan and prepare sales for bids, the majority of timber sales are offered in the fourth quarter of the year. By spreading out sales over the year, the agency increases the chance of receiving more bids. The Eastern Region maintained a steady flow of sales for the entire fiscal year, avoiding market saturation. The Southern Region set a goal to offer 75 percent of timber sale volume before the fourth quarter and implemented a strategy to achieve that while increasing their output over the last year.

The agency is also using technology to make timber sales more efficient. When planning a timber sale, staff does a timber “cruise”—a sample measurement to estimate the amount of standing timber volume. The agency has re-engineered the software used for timber cruises, adding many new features requested by users to make data entry more efficient. It expanded the use of handheld computers in timber cruising, which can save up to 30 percent on the cost of doing a timber cruise. The agency also invested in using Global Positioning Systems, which can quickly and accurately determine which acreage should be treated under a contract.

Vegetation and Watershed Management

Budget Line Item	Vegetation & Watershed Management				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Vegetation & Watershed Management Annual Appropriations	\$184,716	\$184,365	\$174,400	-\$9,965	-5%
Vegetation & Watershed Management Total	184,716	184,365	174,400	-9,965	-5%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	829	829	783	-46	-6%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	829	829	783	-46	-6%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Vegetation & Watershed Management			
Number of watersheds moved to an improved condition class	21	22	19
Acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience	3,214,598	2,900,000	2,400,000
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	3,832	3,450	3,070

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$174,400,000 for the Vegetation and Watershed Management program, a net decrease of \$9,965,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$341,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$1,078,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 46 staff years (\$184,365,000 and 829 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$174,000,000 for priority timber stand improvement projects and critical post-wildfire restoration work that reduces hazardous fuels and the potential for severe flooding and erosion on National Forest System (NFS) lands. The reduction is expected to reduce the number of watersheds moved to an improved condition class from 21 to 19.

Program Overview

The Vegetation and Watershed Management program is a cornerstone of forest and rangeland restoration and enhancement activities on NFS lands. The program funds restoration-related management activities and accomplishes program objectives by working closely with other NFS programs and our partners. Benefits include improved wildlife, fish and plant habitats; improved rangeland and forest conditions; healthier soils; improved water quality, quantity, and timing of stream flows; cleaner air; and more effective, long-term carbon sequestration.

National forests and grasslands are most successful when restoration improves the resilience of ecosystems, restores and conserves quality fisheries and wildlife habitat, and maintains the biodiversity of plant and animal communities. Managing for resilient landscapes ensures vital products and amenities, such as clean water, pollinator services, and recreational opportunities, are available to society. Timely reforestation and revegetation following high intensity wildfire is also important to maintain healthy forest and grassland ecosystems. The Vegetation and Watershed Management programs address basic physical and biological resources on the landscape, providing the foundation for healthy, viable ecosystems and multiple benefits to the public.

Successful ecosystem restoration requires an integrated approach to achieve multiple resource objectives at scales that are meaningful to ecologic function and economic and social expectations. Working at the landscape or watershed scale, and involving multiple disciplines and partners, is critical in systems where boundaries based on land ownership, jurisdiction, and community interest are superimposed onto natural systems. Partnerships bolster landscape restoration efforts that ensure the agency continues to provide ecosystem services such as clean water from NFS lands—which provide the drinking water supply for approximately one-fifth of U.S. communities.

While the Vegetation and Watershed Management program emphasizes landscape-scale restoration, it also supports focused, site-specific actions as needed. These may include actions such as addressing an outbreak of an invasive species before it can spread or addressing sediment from washed-out road segments adversely affecting aquatic habitats.

Watershed management programs directly improve forest and rangeland health by restoring watershed conditions, such as reducing soil erosion and surface runoff, preventing the loss of topsoil, improving soils, and rehabilitating degraded lands. Watershed management also includes reforestation and timber stand improvement treatments. These treatments support ecosystem management needs by protecting soil and water resources, providing habitat for desired species, and improving forest health. Reforestation includes treatments such as seeding, planting, and preparing sites to encourage natural regeneration. Timber stand improvement activities include treatments to remove competing vegetation; pre-commercial thinning to regulate stand density, composition, and structure; pruning treatments to improve future product quality; and fertilization treatments that provide for maintaining and improving soil productivity.

The primary focus of the Vegetation Ecology sub-program is on terrestrial ecosystems. Mapping, describing, and assessing the health of ecological systems provides foundational information for landscape planning and other activities that occur on NFS lands. Through the Vegetation Ecology program, invasive species, both terrestrial and aquatic, are managed, soil function and carbon storage are retained and improved, and native plant resources are developed, produced, and utilized. Pollinator services critical to the survival of the majority of native and agriculturally important plants are improved through the restoration of pollinator habitat.

The agency's rangeland resources, from understory lands in forested areas to open meadows and grasslands, are also managed under this program. Rangelands are managed to provide public uses and products for both rural and urban populations, in addition to maintaining valuable open space. Rangeland improvements are accomplished through seeding and planting of native plant species, removal of encroaching shrub and tree vegetation, management of wild horse and burro populations, and maintenance or enhancement of riparian and upland environments.

Air resource programs are managed to protect sensitive areas from air pollution effects and to mitigate the effects of management activities. The program also helps manage smoke during prescribed burns, and monitors the impacts of smoke from large wildfires, alerting communities in advance. The Forest Service operates a national monitoring network for air quality related values which includes visibility, aerosol sampling, lake and stream chemistry, lichen sampling, deposition, vegetation damage plots, and meteorological conditions.

Forests Are Key Sources of Drinking Water



More than half of the Nation's surface freshwater flows from public and private forest lands, and about 60 million Americans rely on drinking water that originates on the national forests and grasslands. Forest Service land management, combined with Forest Service assistance to private landowners, helps protect the single greatest source of drinking water in the Nation. Photo Credit: Forest Service

Working at the landscape scale, and involving multiple disciplines and partners, is critical to addressing natural resource issues that cross land ownership jurisdictions and address many community interests.

Measuring effectiveness

The Vegetation and Watershed Programs use the agency's Watershed Condition Framework to assess success in protecting water resources. The framework determines watershed conditions, identifies priorities for watershed restoration, and determines if restoration activities are keeping pace with large-scale environmental impacts such as fires or floods.

How Resilient Ecosystems Benefit Communities

Resilient aquatic ecosystems help provide clean water to communities. By keeping aquatic habitats healthy, the agency protects community water supplies, reducing the need for communities to install expensive water treatment facilities. Healthy watersheds also retain soil, reducing the need for communities to fund costly projects to remove sediment clogging reservoirs. Resilient forests and grasslands provide pollination services to local fruit and vegetable growers; are more resistant to insect infestations; drought, and fire; and provide natural environments for a multitude of recreational activities.

Restoration work itself also supports jobs in communities where employment opportunities are often limited. Local contractors are hired to complete restoration work like replanting trees, treating invasive species, re-establishing native vegetation, reducing sediment from roads, improving aquatic organism passage/stream crossings, reducing fuel loads, and improving fish and wildlife habitat.

Past Performance

The Forest Service is changing how it operates and how it thinks about restoration. FY 2016 marked the fifth year of the Integrated Resource Restoration (IRR) program piloted in Regions 1, 3, and 4. The agency continued to build on the lessons learned from the IRR pilot: more effectively integrating efforts among different programs, working across Federal/State/local/Tribal boundaries, using the best available science, and increasing collaboration with partners in all regions.

Measuring Restoration Outcomes

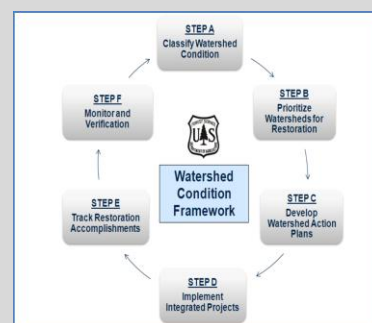
The primary outcome measure used as a benchmark for IRR efforts is the number of watersheds moved to an improved condition class as determined by the Watershed Condition Framework. Moving to an improved condition class means that ecological processes are less at risk and are more functional. The annual result is not only reflective of work implemented that year, but represents the culmination of integrated watershed-based work that started once a restoration action plan was developed. The agency has increased the number of watersheds improved, nearly doubling the achievement rate. From FY 2012 to FY 2016, the Forest Service moved 71 watersheds to an improved condition class.

Environmental Impacts Are Outpacing Restoration

Under the Watershed Condition Framework, the condition of our Nation's watersheds are reevaluated every five years to determine if the outcome of agency restoration efforts are keeping pace with the impacts of catastrophic environmental impacts, such as large scale fires and floods. This reassessment of Forest Service watersheds was completed in FY 2016. Integrated restoration efforts have made significant progress, moving 71 watersheds to an

Watershed Condition Framework

This framework is a systematic process to determine watershed condition class. It is now applied consistently on all National Forests. This framework is a comprehensive approach for: (1) evaluating the condition of watersheds, (2) prioritizing work in areas important to the public, and areas where work results in noticeable differences in watershed condition, and (3) tracking and monitoring outcomes.



The Framework classifies watersheds using a core set of 12 indicators. These indicators classify watershed conditions, identify issues that must be addressed to maintain a watershed's condition class (or move it to an improved condition class), and track what aspects have changed over time that influence a watershed's condition.

Under Step A, the agency classified 15,000 watersheds in 2011. In FY 2016, the agency reassessed watersheds to determine the trend in conditions over time, focusing on those where significant changes had

improved condition class. Since FY 2011, the results of the reassessment show that nationally there are 78 fewer fully functioning watersheds than there were in 2010, even with advancements in watershed restoration. Restoration efforts have not been keeping pace with the environmental impacts of fires. In FY 2015 alone, the most recent year with data of the impacts of the large-scale fires, the agency identified over \$182 million in post-restoration needs. Some ecosystems will not regenerate naturally after wildfires, and the Forest Service's revegetation workload is growing due to this damage. Simultaneously, the Forest Service is trying to provide timber, clean water, pollinator forage, wildlife habitat, safe recreational experiences, and carbon sequestration benefits.

The agency also measures the number of acres treated annually to sustain or restore watershed function and resilience. This measure captures the "footprint" of treatments accomplished through many restoration actions and programs, including activities supported by other agencies programs. For the last three years, including FY 2016, the agency has accomplished 2.7 to 3.1 million acres of restoration treatments each year. In FY 2016, the Vegetation and Watershed Programs continued to significantly contribute to these total acres accomplished, enhancing over 1.1 million acres, including establishing nearly 37,000 acres of forest vegetation, improving nearly 100,000 acres of forest vegetation, improving over 216,000 acres for soil erosion and water quality, improving over 560,000 acres of rangeland vegetation, and treating nearly 230,000 acres for invasive plant species.

To further enhance the ability to measure restoration outcomes in the near future, the Forest Service has developed and is testing the Terrestrial Condition Assessment. Similar to the watershed condition framework, this assessment tool uses a set of metrics that can be applied nationally to more accurately assess terrestrial conditions, help identify terrestrial restoration priorities, and track trends in conditions over time.

To further enhance water quality, the Forest Service monitored implementation and effectiveness of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water quality for over 600 activities. To accomplish the strategic objective of providing abundant clean water, the Forest Service uses water quality BMPs to protect and maintain water resources on NFS lands. The BMPs, applied by all Forest Service programs producing ground disturbing activities, are specific practices or actions used to reduce or control impacts to water bodies from nonpoint sources of pollution, most commonly by reducing the loading of pollutants, such as sediment, from such sources into storm water and waterways. The BMP evaluations help us determine if BMPs were planned, implemented, and effective at meeting water resource objectives, and are critical to improving practices in the future. This is the first systematic approach to BMP implementation across all national forests and grasslands, and the first comprehensive approach to BMP implementation for the diverse range of activities that occur on national forests and grasslands.

FY 2016 Partnership Highlights

The Forest Service played a critical role in interagency conservation efforts within the sagebrush ecosystem in the intermountain west, helping restore habitat for the Greater Sage-Grouse and more than 350 other species that depend on the ecosystem. Much of this work will be completed through the Vegetation and Watershed Programs with restoration efforts focused on restoring native vegetation, aggressively treating invasive species, reducing the risk of wildfires, and improving rangeland habitat. Due in part to the work by the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and many other partners, the Secretary of Interior announced that the Greater Sage-Grouse did not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act.

The agency also continued to improve habitat conditions for pollinators, which are critical for maintaining vegetation on public and adjacent private lands, through a collaborative partnership with other agencies and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The agency leveraged investments to support grants, which were matched by more than \$6.7 million in grantee contributions to support the restoration of up to 33,000 acres of habitat in areas identified by experts as key to monarch recovery.

The Forest Service has also entered into partnership agreements with several organizations and businesses to increase the amount of NFS lands receiving reforestation treatments following wildfires and other natural events. These partnerships have increased the agency's capacity to conduct restoration through sizeable contributions of matching funds and in-kind support from external partners.

Minerals and Geology Management

Budget Line Item	Minerals and Geology Management				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Minerals and Geology Management Annual Appropriations	\$76,423	\$76,278	\$68,000	-\$8,278	-11%
Minerals and Geology Management Total	76,423	76,278	68,000	-8,278	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	461	461	410	-51	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	461	461	410	-51	-11%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Minerals and Geology Management			
Number of mineral operations administered	13,519	10,000	8,750
Number of mineral applications processed	9,424	7,000	5,250
Number of leasable energy minerals actions processed.	129	250	219
Number of AML safety risk features mitigated to "no further action"	464	432	432
Number of administrative units where audits were conducted	20	17	17
Number of contaminated sites mitigated	49	42	42
Number of geologic hazards managed	283	300	300
Number of geologic resources managed	716	650	650

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$68,000,000 for the Minerals and Geology Management program, a net decrease of \$8,278,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$179,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$564,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 51 staff years (\$76,278,000 and 461 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$68,000,000 to support priority mineral applications and critical mineral operations that assist operators to meet standards of operating plans. The reductions (\$5,000,000 for processing mineral applications and \$3,278,000 for administering mineral operations) could result in fewer applications and leasable energy mineral actions being processed, and mineral operations being administered.

Program Overview

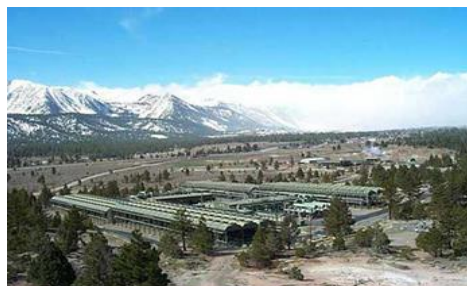
The Minerals and Geology Management program manages energy and mineral development on National Forest System (NFS) lands in an ecologically sustainable manner. The program secures and protects unique resources, such as fossils, caves, groundwater, wildlife habitat, and places of scientific, cultural, and recreational interest; protects people and the environment by monitoring and mitigating geologic hazards like landslides; and cleans, restores, and monitors environmentally compromised lands contaminated by mines or other hazards. The program also oversees paleontological resources (fossils), and over 2,200 caves found on NFS lands.

The Minerals and Geology Management program works with State and local partners to manage inspection, oversight, and monitoring of approved mineral operations on NFS lands. The program reviews plans for proposed mineral activities, including mining for hard rock minerals, coal, oil, gas, and geothermal resources, and production and contracts to extract materials such as sand and gravel. The Minerals and Geology Management program contributes to jobs, the economy, and the environment.

Benefits of Minerals and Energy on NFS lands

NFS lands produce enough energy annually to power nearly eight million homes for a year, and mineral and energy production contribute almost \$8 billion to the Nation's economy. More than half a billion dollars go to counties, States, and the Treasury while supporting approximately 56,000 jobs - often in rural communities where jobs are needed most. Every appropriated dollar invested in leasable minerals, such as oil, gas, and coal, returns about seven dollars to the Treasury.

Geothermal Power from National Forest Lands



In FY 2016, geothermal resource development on NFS lands contributed to generation of over 359,000 megawatts of electricity, valued at over \$22.3 million. Photo Credit: Forest Service

There are five types of energy and mineral production on NFS lands:

- oil, gas, coal, and geothermal energy from federally-owned minerals underlying NFS land;
- oil, gas, and other mineral production from privately-owned energy and mineral rights underlying NFS lands;
- solid non-energy minerals including phosphate, lead, zinc, and copper;
- construction materials like sand and gravel, sold to private industry or provided to other government agencies for nearby projects (which helps to avoid the cost and environmental impacts of material transport); and
- highly valued minerals such as gold, silver, copper, and lead zinc.

Leasable and Locatable Resources

Leasable resources on Federal land include oil, gas, coal, geothermal resources, phosphate, sodium, and carbon dioxide. Leasable mineral and energy production from NFS lands significantly contribute to the fundamental materials necessary to the functioning of modern society. Developing oil and gas leases on NFS lands provides substantial energy for the Nation and provides significant economic contributions to rural communities.

Locatable minerals include gold, silver, lead, copper, zinc, iron, molybdenum, tungsten, nickel, platinum, uranium, and rare earth elements, and are subject to the Mining Act of 1872. Every American citizen has a right to stake a claim and mine these materials subject to Federal, State, and local regulations. Forest Service regulations require a Plan of Operations for such claims, including plans for reclaiming the mine site.

Many commodities essential to modern life are sourced from NFS lands under the Minerals and Geology Management program, including precious metals; industrial minerals; and common materials used for agricultural supply, construction, and landscaping. Below are some examples of minerals extracted from NFS lands and their uses.

Forest Service Energy Production-Facts and Figures

- 5.6 million acres underlying NFS lands are currently leased for oil, gas, coal, and geothermal operations.
- 46 million tons of coal were produced from NFS lands in FY 2015 (25 percent of U.S. coal production).
- The amount of geothermal energy produced on NFS lands in FY 2015 is enough to power 35,000 homes.
- Mineral development from Federal leases on NFS lands alone provided over \$885 million in revenue through royalties and other payments to the U.S. Treasury (\$402 million from coal, \$465 million from oil and gas, and \$18 million from other leasable mineral commodities).
- \$1.6 billion worth of products were produced by the eight largest mines on NFS lands in FY 2015. (See Commodity and Uses table below for examples of products.)

Commodity	Uses
Cinders	Road Construction, Abrasives, landscape materials
Copper	Conduit, electrical wire, motors, circuit boards, cell phones, Global Positioning Systems (GPS) devices
Gold	Jewelry, wiring electronics, computer components, aerospace industry, cell phones, GPS devices
Gravel	Railroad ballast, road construction, aggregate for asphalt, and aggregate for concrete production
Iron	Machine tools, automobiles, hulls of large ships, machine and building parts, surgical equipment
Lead	Automobile industry, electrodes, solder, radiation shielding, car batteries
Limestone	Portland cement, paint, food additives, aggregate, landscape materials
Molybdenum	Armor, aircraft parts, industrial motors, filaments and electrical contacts, lubricant, agriculture, spark plugs
Nickel	Stainless steel, armor plating, ceramics, magnets
Palladium	Jewelry, surgical instruments, dentistry, spark plugs, blood glucose strips, GPS devices
Phosphates	Lawn fertilizers, toothpaste, and chemicals (weed control)
Platinum	Oxygen sensors, catalytic converters, jewelry
Pumice	Lightweight concrete production, abrasives, horticulture, landscaping materials
Sand	Building materials, landscaping material, abrasives
Silica	Paints, plastics, rubber, glass, optics
Silver	Jewelry, photographic uses, electronics, GPS devices
Sodium	Food, road deicer
Stone	Building materials, decorative stone, walls, paver stones
Tungsten	Fluorescent lighting, high-speed tools, dental drills
Zinc	Alkaline batteries, fire retardant, wood preservative, sunscreen, GPS devices

Environmental Safety and Restoration

Abandoned mine lands pose a variety of physical and environmental threats. If left unaddressed, abandoned mines can contaminate soil, pollute water, destroy habitat, destabilize land, release hazardous gases and industrial waste, and create physical hazards such as dangerous holes. Some of these hazards are often located near populated areas, including schools and recreational destinations, and in sensitive ecosystems. There may be as many as 39,000 abandoned mines on NFS lands, and many more on other public lands.

The Minerals and Geology Management program inventories, assesses, and mitigates abandoned mine safety hazards and associated environmental damage. This work includes closing underground mine openings and vertical shafts; re-contouring open pits, trenches, and associated roads; and removing or stabilizing abandoned buildings, and equipment. Wherever feasible, work in this activity minimizes or mitigates adverse effects on dependent wildlife and abandoned mine lands-associated cultural and historic resources. Since 1998, the agency has mitigated more than 6,000 safety hazards at abandoned mines.

Safety First on Abandoned Mine Lands



Inspection of the final phase of closures on steep limestone bedrock tract of Locher abandoned mine, George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, Rockbridge County, VA. Photo Credit: Forest Service

To minimize or eliminate threats to human health and the environment, the program inventories and assesses sites where there is a release, or threat of release, of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant on NFS lands. After cleanup, the agency provides for long-term operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the site. We restore lands surrounding mines under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and other authorities.

Geologic Resources and Geologic Hazards on NFS lands

The Minerals and Geology Management program manages and protects geologic resources such as groundwater,

cave systems, paleontological resources, and natural landscape features. These resources support recreation and sustain watersheds and habitat. Caves provide habitat for sensitive species such as bats, which are pollinators essential to sustaining healthy ecosystems and crops alike. Laws and regulations require special designation, management, and/or protection of some geologic resources such as groundwater, caves, and paleontological sites. The agency manages these resources to protect their cultural, educational, scientific, and recreational values, and to protect groundwater resources to ensure water remains available for people and ecosystems.

Geologic hazards (geohazards) are natural conditions or processes, such as floods, landslides, avalanches, earthquakes, volcanoes, and naturally occurring hazardous minerals and gases like asbestos and radon. When geohazards occur, they can pose significant risks – disrupting transportation and utility services, damaging residential, recreational, and industrial structures, threatening lives, and impacting local communities. To minimize threats to life, health, and infrastructure from geologic hazards, the program assesses and monitors hundreds of sites, especially those in areas with high recreational use. When geohazards do occur, the agency helps mitigate the damage, and then continues to assess and monitor the geohazard to help forecast whether it might reoccur or pose additional risks.

Past Performance

Reducing Application Processing Timeframes

In FY 2016, the Forest Service implemented new agency guidance on addressing groundwater resources in National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents to fully document sufficient groundwater analysis under NEPA. It is anticipated that this will help support NEPA decisions and allow projects to proceed more quickly, increasing efficiency and lowering costs to the taxpayer. These guides should enable field units to conduct adequate analyses of groundwater resources using local expertise with basic knowledge and training in hydrogeology.

In addition, the agency continued to work with the Bureau of Land Management to improve coordination between agencies, standardize interagency policies, and update or streamline agreements on geothermal, coal, and non-coal solid minerals. This will help the agencies better serve the public by providing uniform policies and procedures, and reduce redundant administrative requirements for projects on lands spanning both agencies' jurisdictions.

Long Term Financial Assurance: Post-Closure Cleanup Needs

In April 2016, the Forest Service published official guidance to address long-term maintenance and monitoring needs that occur after mining operations and reclamation activities have ended. The policy requires mine operators to establish interest bearing trust accounts that will complement traditional reclamation bonds already in place. The policy also outlines agency responsibilities for oversight of trust management.

During mining operations and following mine closures, short-term environmental cleanup and reclamation are necessary. Mining operators post reclamation bonds to ensure that funding is available for these short-term needs. In addition to the short-term cleanup, there is potential for long-term environmental protection to prevent post-reclamation damage to surrounding habitat and water sources. Post-reclamation (post-closure) activities may include monitoring, water treatment, or maintenance of post-mining infrastructure such as mine waste storage facilities or even fences, and these activities may be required for many years (even centuries) beyond planned or unplanned mine closures. It is the mining operator's responsibility to fund these long-term environmental protection activities. However, if an operator should default or declare bankruptcy, the burden falls on the American taxpayer. The new policy protects taxpayers by requiring mining operators to establish long-term trusts to ensure adequate funding to address all post-reclamation/ post-closure activities.

The agency is now working with two mines in Alaska - the Kensington Mine and the Greens Creek Mine - to establish financial assurance for long-term liabilities.

Greens Creek Mine is a large underground silver, zinc, lead, and gold mine located on the northern end of Admiralty Island National Monument. It affects about 350 acres – similar in size to the National Mall from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial. The Greens Creek tailings facility was approved for expansion in 2013 and construction is

currently under way. The expansion area is lined with high-density polyethylene and sand. The synthetic and natural liners under the tailings help protect water quality of the surrounding area.

Forest Service monitoring and administration has ensured that reclamation is taking place alongside mining activities to minimize the total disturbed acreage. Greens Creek has a reclamation bond with the Forest Service for \$50 million, in addition to a bond with the State of Alaska for \$13.5 million which would be used to fund a trust for water treatment in perpetuity.

Without this trust authority, this mine (and others) could eventually become managed by the Forest Service or under CERCLA authorities, at the taxpayers' expense. Thus, the use of trust accounts as financial assurance will protect surface resources and prevent taxpayers from bearing the financial burden of funding these long-term obligations.

National Groundwater Program

Thirty-three percent of the public water supply originates from groundwater sources. To protect those sources, in FY 2016 the agency completed three-dimensional groundwater maps that show where groundwater exists on the Pike-San Isabel-Comanche-Cimarron National Forests and Grasslands in Colorado and the Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming. These maps help identify where groundwater may be vulnerable to loss or contamination by activities like mining or energy development, which helped the forests in their land management planning.

On the Sheyenne National Grassland in North Dakota, the agency collaborated with The Nature Conservancy to study the effects of using ditches and drainage on groundwater levels and wetland plants. It worked with other countries to protect habitats for migratory species, some of which spend time in the United States and play important roles in U.S. ecosystems. For example, the agency documented impacts of groundwater pumping in Ruoergai Marsh, China, the most important breeding area for Black-necked cranes in Asia. Working with local managers and researchers, the agency developed a monitoring plan and made recommendations to conserve wetland habitats and restore rangeland.

Landownership Management

Budget Line Item	Landownership Management				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Landownership Management					
Annual Appropriations	\$77,730	\$77,582	\$69,000	-\$8,582	-11%
Landownership Management Total	77,730	77,582	69,000	-8,582	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	526	526	467	-59	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	526	526	467	-59	-11%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Landownership Management			
Acres of land adjustments to conserve the integrity of undeveloped lands and habitat quality	9,697	26,900	19,100
Number of land use authorizations administered to standard	22,088	17,000	17,000
Number of land use proposals and applications processed	4,476	4,000	4,000
Miles of landownership boundary line marked/maintained to standard	2,566	2,070	1,656

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$69,000,000 for the Landownership Management program, a net decrease of \$8,582,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$203,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$643,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 59 staff years (\$77,582,000 and 526 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$69,000,000 to convey lands that have lost their national forest character or are isolated from other Federal lands, and to mark and maintain National Forest System (NFS) boundaries. The reductions (\$4,291,000 for adjusting land ownership; \$4,291,000 for locating land boundaries) could result in fewer acres conveyed or exchanged to conserve the integrity of NFS lands, and a likely decrease in miles of boundary lines marked and maintained.

Program Overview

The Landownership Management program lays the foundation for all land and natural resource management activities on the NFS lands. The program secures and protects NFS lands and land interests. Through program implementation and land use authorizations, Forest Service staff ensure economically valuable public services and benefits from NFS lands are provided.

When asked about the Forest Service, most people think of recreation or timber activities. While this program supports these uses, NFS lands also host a variety of national and rural infrastructure, including:

- fiber optic lines (Internet);
- cell towers;
- hydropower projects;
- oil and gas pipelines;

- local community water reservoirs;
- road rights-of-way;
- emergency communications facilities;
- power lines; and
- water lines.

The Landownership Management program authorizes and manages infrastructure on NFS lands, enabling essential public services such as emergency communications, broadband, radio, cellular service, transportation, and clean water. The program also ensures the public's natural resources are protected and conserved, while NFS lands are used for a myriad of activities, including infrastructure.

Did You Know? The agency manages approximately 47,500 permits for uses of Forest Service land. These uses generate billions of dollars to the U.S. economy.

Supporting Vital Public Services While Protecting the Public's Natural Resources

The program protects NFS lands while authorizing and managing a variety of special uses. For example, hydropower projects located on national forest lands produce and deliver power that benefits populations that are often quite distant from national forests. Forest Service staff also ensure the protection and restoration of rivers and streams, sustain fish habitat and support water-based recreation. The program manages over 200 different types of activities on NFS land, and typically issues between 5,000 and 7,000 authorizations for these activities each year. There are currently 47,500 permits for land uses, and another 30,000 permits for recreation uses across the United States.

Land use permits include rights-of-way for roads, pipelines, communication and navigation sites, and electric transmission and distribution facilities. Such uses of NFS lands directly support jobs by bringing economic and recreational benefits to local communities, particularly in rural communities where the agency is a major landowner.

To manage these activities, the agency must evaluate new proposals to occupy and use NFS lands for non-recreational purposes. Proposals include uses for new and existing roads, communications sites, hydropower facilities, oil and gas pipelines, electric transmission lines, and other energy-related uses to facilitate the delivery of reliable energy resources and communication links.

Past Performance

Improving Our Work on Permissions for Land Uses

In FY 2016, the agency made strategic investments to start developing an "ePermit" system that will allow the public (individuals and businesses) to electronically apply for special use permits online. The ePermit system will expedite the special use permit process, provide both the Forest Service and the public a better way to process requests for land uses, and allow the public to follow the status of their request in the permitting process. In addition, the agency closed or reissued over 2,500 of our permits.

The agency also implemented several regional and two national strike teams to address the special uses backlog, and to increase efficiency in processing energy, communications and other special uses that impact services to businesses and communities. The teams focused on processing expired, expiring, and new special use authorizations in a timely manner, inspecting existing special use authorizations for compliance, finalizing cost recovery agreements for permit holders, improving customer service, and ensuring appropriate fee collections, resulting in increased monetary returns to the U.S. Treasury.

Communications Use

In FY 2016, the agency began implementing a centralized National Billing Team that reviewed all communications use authorization billing for timeliness and accuracy. Centralizing the communications use invoicing process resulted in better customer service, less impact to field personnel, and is estimated to add over \$1 million in additional revenue deposited to the Treasury.

The agency also created a Communications Site Strike Team for the Angeles National Forest in California, which represents approximately 20 percent of all of the Forest Service communications authorization revenue, including some of the most complex sites and uses administered. The team members processed 95 (30-year-long) long-term permit applications for expired, expiring, or new communication use authorizations, and 22 new communication site management plans. Other significant accomplishments to date include notifications sent to all 95 holders, 83 cost recovery bills sent (totaling \$95,000), and 95 inspections completed.

National Partnerships to Serve Customers

This past year, the agency worked closely with the Heritage Program and the National Forest Homeowners Association to implement the new recreation residence guidelines following the passage of the Cabin Fee Act in December 2014. The law and the new guidelines were met by overwhelming approval by the National Forest Homeowners Association membership. The Act simplifies and stabilizes fees, streamlines program administration, provides a fair and reasonable return for the taxpayer, and ensures the longevity of this popular recreation program and a long-term source of revenue for the Forest Service. Recreation residences are estimated to eventually return to the Federal government more than \$30 million in retained fees. The agency also expanded national relationships with two energy companies, Pacific Gas & Energy and Southern California Edison. The cost recovery and collection agreements and fees from the renewed permits will generate approximately \$8 million over the next four years in the Pacific Southwest Region alone.

Increasing Domestic Energy Production and Local Revenue

In FY 2016, the agency reduced the processing time for major and master cost recovery agreements to ensure that agreements for energy projects and other large special use proposals requiring 50 hours or more of work can be processed in three days instead of several weeks. With this reduced processing time, smaller field staffs will actively engage and be able to process proposals from companies proposing large developments, make companies more willing to pay cost recovery for the agency's work to process and manage projects, and increase the number of funding agreements process.

Cellular Tower on the Angeles National Forest



A cellular tower located on the Angeles National Forest. This tower provides service to four different cell phone providers. Photo credit: Forest Service.

Law Enforcement and Operations

Budget Line Item	Law Enforcement Operations				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Law Enforcement Operations					
Annual Appropriations	\$126,653	\$126,412	\$129,153	\$2,741	2%
Law Enforcement Operations Total	126,653	126,412	129,153	2,741	2%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	691	691	691	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	691	691	691	0	0%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Law Enforcement Operations			
Percent of cases referred for adjudication	4.5%	7.2%	5.0%
Number of documented law enforcement incidents per 10,000 forest visits	5.3	6.0	5.3

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$129,153,000 for Law Enforcement Operations program, an increase of \$2,741,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$301,000 for Annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$951,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and 691 staff years (\$126,412,000 and 691 staff years available in 2017).

The Forest Service will maintain staff years with the proposed funding to continue law enforcement officers from around the Nation to participate in marijuana eradication operations and marijuana grow site clean-up and reclamation.

Program Overview

The Forest Service Law Enforcement & Investigation (LEI) program is charged with providing a safe environment for the public, our employees, and protecting the Nation's natural resources on approximately 193 million acres of National Forest Systems (NFS) lands in 44 States. The program accomplishes this by enforcing laws and regulations and investigating crimes increasing population growth in the wildland-urban interface, increasing popularity of NFS lands for motorized recreational use, and illegal occupancy which cause significant impacts to NFS lands and resources, and increase risks to public and employee health and safety.

The LEI program provides a highly visible uniformed patrol presence and rapid emergency response to incidents affecting the public and employees visiting or working on NFS lands. LEI conducts regular and recurring patrols. The LEI staff responds to crimes and conducts complex criminal and civil investigations ranging from minor infractions to serious felonies such as homicide, rape, assaults, and threats against the public and employees, domestic disputes, robbery, drug production and trafficking, domestic terrorism, destruction of government property, theft of archaeological resources, gang activity, and fire investigations.

The LEI staffs also frequently respond to catastrophic natural or manmade disasters at the local, regional, and national level, and commonly provide immediate emergency response in support of catastrophic wildland fire incidents on public lands. LEI is often the first law enforcement responder on these incidents and responsible for the

safety of firefighting personnel and equipment, the evacuation of visitors and residents, and the protection of property. The LEI program is also a rapidly deployable national law enforcement asset under the Federal Emergency Management Agency Emergency Support Function #13- Public Safety and Security.

Approximately 80 percent of marijuana grown on Federal public lands is grown on NFS lands. The LEI program is the lead organization combating this threat to public lands. LEI's works to address illegal cannabis production, the associated severe environmental damage, and the significant safety risk Drug Trafficking Organizations pose to public lands.

This program performs the following two activities:

Enforce Laws & Regulations - Includes uniformed patrol presence, resource protection patrols, and response to public and employee safety incidents and violations of laws and regulations. Common incidents on national forests include theft, assault, alcohol and drug use, unauthorized motor vehicle use, illegal occupancy, and trespassing. To protect NFS resources and visitors, Forest Service law enforcement officers carry firearms, defensive equipment, make arrests, execute search warrants, complete reports, and testify in court. They establish a regular and recurring presence on a vast amount of public lands, roads, and recreation sites. The primary focus is the protection of natural resources, protection of Forest Service employees and the protection of visitors.

Investigate Crime - Covers criminal and civil investigations of internal and external cases such as felony arson, drug possession, smuggling and manufacturing, thefts, and assaults.

Drug Trafficking Organizations have been identified as the key producers of marijuana on NFS lands with activities confirmed on 72 national forests and in all Regions except Region 10. Illegal trafficking on or near NFS lands of immigrants, drugs, weapons, and other contraband, and illegal exportation of weapons and illicit cash profits create ongoing and imminent threats to the safety of employees and the visiting public. Special Agents plan and conduct investigations concerning possible violations of criminal and administrative provisions of Forest Service and other statutes under the United States Code. These normally plainclothes officers carry concealed firearms and other defensive equipment, make arrests, carry out complex criminal investigations, and prepares investigative reports and present cases for prosecution to U.S. Attorneys.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, there were 5.3 documented law enforcement incidents per 10,000 forest visits, meeting the target (desired outcome) of 6 or fewer. Many of these incidents were critical emergency incidents involving threats to the safety of the public, employees, or property and resources. Also in FY 2016, 4.5 percent of all criminal cases were referred for adjudication compared to a target of seven percent. Many of the adjudicated cases included serious felony violations of law such as assault, controlled substance violations, theft and damage of government property, and significant civil cases. In FY 2016, LEI eradicated 872,986 marijuana plants.

Law Enforcement and Investigation Plane and Vehicle



Region 10 – Law Enforcement and Investigations Plane and Vehicles used during patrols in the Alaska Region.

Capital Improvement and Maintenance

Appropriation	Capital Improvement and Maintenance				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Capital Improvement and Maintenance					
Annual Appropriations	\$364,164	\$363,472	\$99,693	-\$263,779	-73%
Capital Improvement and Maintenance Total	364,164	363,472	99,693	-263,779	-73%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	1,945	1,945	1,662	-283	-15%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1,945	1,945	1,662	-283	-15%
Capital Improvement and Maintenance					
Facilities	71,390	71,254	11,750	-59,504	-84%
Roads	172,094	171,767	75,243	-96,524	-56%
Trails	77,530	77,383	12,700	-64,683	-84%
Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement	3,150	3,144	0	-3,144	-100%
Legacy Roads and Trails	40,000	39,924	0	-39,924	-100%

Capital Improvement and Maintenance Overview

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$99,693,000 for Capital Improvement and Maintenance, a decrease of \$263,779,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$968,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$735,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 283 staff years (\$363,472,000 and 1,945 staff years available in 2017).

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The President's Budget request focuses the Capital Improvement and Maintenance programs on managing existing infrastructure and maintaining public safety.

A decrease of \$59,504,000 for the Facilities program. The FY 2018 budget proposes \$11,750,000 for staff to administer and maintain existing recreational and administrative facilities. It does not include any major facilities projects at this time, but highest priority maintenance will be maintained.

A decrease of \$96,524,000 in the Roads program. The FY 2018 budget proposes \$75,243,000 to maintain a staff level to address public safety needs by identifying and addressing maintenance on the highest priority road. For the purpose of timber harvest, the agency will focus on taking better advantage of all funding sources where appropriate, such as Timber Salvage Sales (which pays for design and administration of timber haul roads, and the Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction).

A decrease of \$64,683,000 in the Trails program. The FY 2018 budget proposes \$12,700,000 to maintain a staff level to address public safety needs.

A decrease of \$3,144,000 in the Deferred Maintenance program. The FY 2018 budget request proposes no funding for the Deferred Maintenance program.

A decrease of \$39,924,000 in the Legacy Roads and Trails program. The FY 2018 budget request proposes no funding for the Legacy Roads and Trails program.

Facilities

Budget Line Item	Facilities				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Facilities					
Annual Appropriations	\$71,390	\$71,254	\$11,750	-\$59,504	-84%
Facilities Total	71,390	71,254	11,750	-59,504	-84%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	307	307	256	51	17%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	307	307	256	51	17%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Facilities			
Facilities condition index	84.0%	82.0%	82.0%
Percent of administrative facilities with "Good" or "Fair" condition rating	58.0%	58.0%	58.0%
Percentage of recreation facilities with a "Good" or "Fair" condition rating	77.0%	74.0%	74.0%

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

Please refer to information about funding changes for Facilities within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Overview section.

Program Overview

The Facilities program provides the infrastructure enabling the agency to care for the land, and supports recreational amenities to serve the public. Approximately half of the facilities budget supports recreational facilities, and the other half supports Forest Service missions to restore resilient landscapes, manage wildland fire and emergency response efforts, and conduct research (over 800 facilities support the research mission).

The Forest Service Facilities Portfolio

The Forest Service Facilities Program addresses maintenance, capital improvement, and management of almost 40,000 buildings, 9,543 water/wastewater systems, almost 28,000 recreation sites, and more than 460 Forest Service-owned dams.

By providing safe facilities, the program also protects employee and visitor safety, preserves the value of public investments by preventing facilities from deteriorating, and protects natural resources surrounding the facilities. Additionally, the Facilities Program provides efficient and effective facilities management. To accomplish these goals, the Facilities program focuses on:

- operating clean, safe, and fully functional facilities at recreation sites;
- performing routine annual maintenance;
- assessing facilities' physical condition and regulatory compliance;
- implementing Five-Year Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvement Plans;
- inventory and describe assets;
- establishing appropriate levels of investment; and

- adopting public/commercial benchmarks and best practices.

The program includes deferred maintenance and capital improvements, and annual maintenance and operational costs.

Greening Our Infrastructure

The Forest Service Facilities program practices sustainability in facilities management, maintenance, and capital improvement. The program meets sustainability goals by mandating high efficiency energy and water consumption designs when repairs or modifications are implemented for any facility, constructing net-zero energy facilities where practicable, and reducing waste through recycling and improved waste management whenever possible.

New construction projects for administrative facilities are registered and certified, primarily using the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system or the Green Building Initiatives Green Globes rating system. The program aims for a minimum of Silver certification under LEED, a minimum of Two Green Globes under the Green Globes system, or a similar category under other third party certification systems.

Connecting People to the Outdoors

Forest Service recreation attracts approximately 149 million visitors annually. Recreation facilities improve the visitor experience and connect Americans with their national forests.¹⁵ Administrative buildings, such as ranger stations and visitor centers, allow the public to learn about their forests and grasslands. Campgrounds, picnic areas and day use sites provide safe amenities for visitors to stop, eat, explore, and play. Facilities provide necessary services, such as water and restrooms, while protecting other forest areas.

Making Recreation Accessible to All

The agency is significantly improving access to national forests for everyone, including seniors, families, and the estimated 57 million Americans with disabilities. The Forest Service provides the largest number and widest range of accessible recreation facilities in the country, including interpretive sites, campgrounds, picnic areas, visitor centers, target ranges, trailheads, observation sites, etc. Twenty-eight percent of all recreation sites, such as campgrounds, picnic areas, and day use sites – and 49 percent of all recreation site buildings – are accessible to people of all abilities. The agency strives to allow all Americans to experience the benefits of our public lands – including improved health, social connections, and quality of life.

Past Performance

The Forest Service facilities program focuses on reducing the overall facilities footprint, improving energy and water efficiencies, decreasing the deferred maintenance backlog, decommissioning unneeded infrastructure,

Benefits of Sustainable Facilities



Sustainable facilities significantly reduce operation and maintenance costs.

Above, a prefabricated restroom is assembled on-site. It is extremely durable, easily maintained, and features a new design pioneered with the manufacturer to meet Forest Service sustainability guidelines. Photo Credit: Forest Service.

Improving Public Access



Construction of accessible pathways in campgrounds and picnic areas improves access for the visiting public. Photo Credit: Forest Service

¹⁵ https://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/nvum/pdf/508pdf2015_National_Summary_Report.pdf

improving capital assets, and increasing dam safety.

Increasing Community Safety Around Dams

There are many small dams on National Forest System lands. Some are owned by the Forest Service, while others are owned by local communities. These dams were built decades ago for various purposes (irrigation, recreation, water supply, etc.) The majority are over 50 years old, and in many cases communities have grown up around the dams, creating potential risks to life and property if dams fail. The Forest Service uses Emergency Action Plans to provide clear direction for authorities to respond to dam-related incidents, and provides inundation maps to identify critical infrastructure and at-risk populations that may require protection, warning, or evacuation. In FY 2016, the agency updated Emergency Action Plans and associated inundation maps for 36 High Hazard Potential dams, and is preparing to test the Emergency Action Plans in coordination with local emergency managers.

This program is working to increase community safety around dams. For example, the Hume Lake Dam, located on the Sequoia National Forest in California, was built in 1908 as a log pond and water source to float timber downstream. Today the lake behind the dam, Hume Lake, is a popular recreation area frequented by thousands of visitors annually. In addition, releases from Hume Lake provide year-round flow for fisheries downstream in an area suffering from severe drought. Hume Lake is a high hazard dam, with at-risk populations downstream should the dam fail.

In FY 2016 the Forest Service completed a \$3 million upgrade to prevent water seepage by installing a waterproof membrane on the Hume Lake Dam's face, and by sealing the foundation. The improvements have significantly reduced or eliminated seepage through and under the dam. The agency will also install a system to allow remote control and monitoring of the dam.

Increasing Accessibility for Outdoor Recreation

The agency is committed to providing recreational opportunities for all people, regardless of age or ability. In FY 2016, more than 28 percent of recreation site capacity was accessible –a record. There are 8,600 accessible recreation buildings, including over 100 of which were developed in FY 2016.

Hume Land Dam



Hume Lake Dam and associated lumber mill in full operation in the early 1900s. Photo Credit: Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region Engineering

Reducing our Physical and Environmental Footprint

The Forest Service is investing to improve the performance of its facilities in terms of sustainability, energy and water conservation, and operational cost-effectiveness. For example, in FY 2016, the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest substantially completed several improvements to dramatically improve the efficiency of the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. Improvements include insulation, modernization of the heating and air conditioning system, new LED lighting in the building and parking lot, and installation of photovoltaic solar panels estimated to produce 137,000 kilowatt-hours of energy per year. Initially, the improvements will offset at least 42 percent of the prior electricity usage, and that number could rise to as much as 70 percent. The Center plans to achieve a Green Globes certification. Moreover, an interpretive exhibit will demonstrate how peoples' decisions about buildings influence the environmental footprint of that structure, which in turn affects the natural world. In this way, the agency is modeling and demonstrating environmental stewardship while reducing utility costs.

Collaborating with Partners to Achieve Multiple Resource Goals

In FY 2016, the Chippewa National Forest in Minnesota celebrated the completion of the Knutson Dam Replacement and Improvement Project at the Mississippi River outlet on the north shore of Cass Lake. The Forest Service worked with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribe, the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ottertail Power, and the Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership to accomplish this project. These partners contributed half of the total project cost.

The Knutson Dam was built in the early 1900's as a logging dam. Since it came under Forest Service jurisdiction in 1926, it has been used to regulate the water levels of the upstream and downstream lakes and the river, providing appropriate fish spawning conditions, allowing recreational access, and limiting high and/or low water level extremes. A 2011 engineering inspection showed the dam needed significant repairs to remain operational. The Forest Service had also just completed a forest-wide watershed assessment, creating an opportunity to address the many structural and natural resource issues the dam created.

The project removed the failing Knutson Dam and reconnected the Mississippi River at the outlet of Cass Lake through construction of innovative rock arch rapids (see text box), restoring spawning habitat for species such as the walleye and white sucker fish. It also enhanced aquatic organism passage to over 30 miles of river and more than 72,000 acres of lakes such as Cass Lake and Lake Winnibigoshish, which are world-class walleye fisheries. This project also improved recreational fishing access through the addition of a modern fishing pier, reduced the potential for lakeshore erosion on Cass Lake, restored the Cass Lake watershed, limited high water levels, and reduced safety hazards of the former logging dam. Finally, it reduced operation and maintenance costs by up to \$20,000 per year.

Below are examples of projects ongoing and completed in FY 2016:

- The Intermountain Region completed reconstruction of the Fremont Lake Campground.
- The Northern Region continued to remodel and reconstruct Fort Missoula's Building 26 to serve as the Regional Office in Missoula, Montana. A total of 225 employees will eventually be housed in the building. This project not only preserves and utilizes a significant historic building, but also reduces the Regional Office footprint by 50 percent, eliminating \$8 million in deferred maintenance backlog. It will reduce operation and maintenance costs by up to \$1.6 million annually.

A Model of Sustainability



In partnership with the State of Wisconsin, the Forest Service has reduced the environmental footprint of the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center. The building is a multi-use, multi-agency facility, attracting approximately 160,000 visitors annually, who contribute more than \$5 million to the local economy each year. Photo Credit: Forest Service

- The Pacific Southwest Region began construction of a new Kern River Ranger District Office. The project will consolidate 20 full-time employees from two separate offices under one roof and decommission the old office location that is located in the way of a new dam expansion project. The new office will be energy efficient building and will eliminate \$880,000 in deferred maintenance backlog. The project also closes out a long-term lease eliminating future lease costs.
- The Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Utah awarded a contract to decommission the Mill Creek Dam in Utah. The project is part of an ongoing effort by the Forest Service and the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to restore the Mill Creek watershed to more natural and historic conditions. The project will eliminate \$368,000 in deferred maintenance, and save the region \$20,000 in operation and maintenance costs annually. It will reconnect and restore habitat of the native cutthroat trout, allowing it to repopulate areas in which it had become extinct. It will also improve flood control along the stream, increasing public safety. The Forest Service is collaborating with a large number of partners to leverage appropriated dollars with matching funds to complete the work, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Utah Anglers Coalition, Utah Habitat Council, the Western Inland Trout Initiative, Trout Unlimited, PacifiCorp, and the Great Salt Lake Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which has multiple camps nearby.
- The Southern Region awarded a contract for the decommissioning of the Camp Ocala facility. The project will eliminate 50,800 square feet of facility footprint, and remove \$252,000 in deferred maintenance backlog. This project will decommission utility systems, roads, and site amenities such as sidewalks, fences, docks, and a tennis court. Natural vegetation will be restored on the site following decommissioning of all constructed features.

Restoring Trout Habitat



Removal of the Mill Creek Dam on the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Utah will reconnect and restore habitat of the native Bonneville Cutthroat Trout. Photo Credit: Forest Service

Knutson Dam



Above: Knutson Dam before project: at risk of failing, provided poor habitat



Knutson Dam after project: failing dam removed, more natural stream flow restored by installing 'rock arch rapids

The rock arch rapids provide more natural habitat while maintaining desired seasonal water levels. The project received several awards, including the 2016 Rise to the Future award for working with partners to enhance aquatic resources, and the Lake-Friendly Award for Protection Strategy, awarded by area environmental organizations and the Minnesota DNR. The Nature Conservancy also nominated the project for the Lake and River Stewardship Award. Photo Credits: Forest Service

Roads

Budget Line Item	Roads				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Roads					
Annual Appropriations	\$172,094	\$171,767	\$75,243	-\$96,524	-56%
Roads Total	172,094	171,767	75,243	-96,524	-56%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	977	977	874	-103	-11%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	977	977	874	103	-11%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Roads			
Miles of passenger car roads receiving maintenance	33,378	30,000	30,000
Miles of high clearance system roads receiving maintenance	16,716	12,000	12,000
Miles of road reconstruction and capital improvement	2,710	2,000	2,000

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

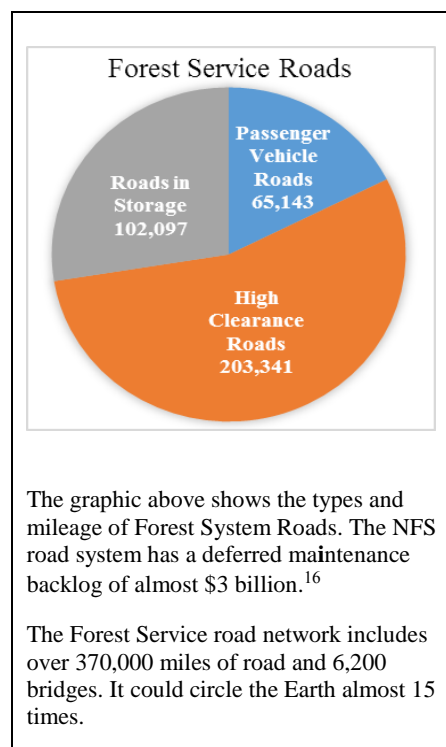
Please refer to information about funding changes for Roads within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Overview section.

Program Overview

The Roads program provides safe, critical access to and through National Forest System (NFS) lands.

The Forest Service's roads system provides safe, sustainable access for:

- the public to enjoy recreation;
- timber companies to conduct timber harvests;
- forest managers to reduce hazardous fuels and manage vegetation;
- mining interests to access minerals, oil, and gas;
- facilities on NFS lands such as communications towers and utility rights-of-way; and
- emergency responders and local residents in the event of a wildland fire or other emergencies.



¹⁶Roads in Storage are roads that cannot be effectively maintained or roads that are not currently needed but may be needed at a later date. These roads are temporarily closed and taken out of use.

Through proper road management, the roads program also protects clean and abundant water in national forests by implementing best management practices for water quality, and by improving places where bridges cross streams so fish and other aquatic organisms can pass under bridges safely.

The Roads program maintains the safety and wellbeing of the public and employees by conducting safety assessments and audits, and making necessary safety improvements. Increasing public and employee safety and resource protection are priorities for Road program funds.

The agency is currently working to strengthen the Safety Management System for roads and bridges in partnership with the Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration.

Access for Timber Harvests



Roads are necessary to reach and transport timber in the forest. They provide essential access for saw mills and companies that support the country's timber needs. Photo Credit: Vladimir Steblina.

Roads Impact Water Quality



A washed out road (left) degrades water quality by allowing sediment into the water. A road next to a healthy stream (right) was removed, protecting water quality and restoring habitat. Through proper management like this, the Roads program protects and improves watershed quality. Photo Credits: Forest Service

Good Roads Keep Watersheds Healthy

Roads that are poorly maintained result in erosion and sediment in streams, and have a direct negative effect on the quality of the Nation's drinking water and wildlife habitat. Ensuring that the road surface is stable, and the drainage system functions properly, can reduce or eliminate these impacts. This work will be expended upon the President's initiative of modernizing infrastructure, which includes removing or replacing structures where roads cross streams to allow fish and other aquatic organisms to pass, and reconstruction to reduce road sediment entering streams. Roads that cannot be effectively maintained are either temporarily closed or taken out of use, or permanently removed (decommissioned), or their land restored to a natural state.

Prioritizing Road and Bridge Work

The Roads program prioritizes funds for road and bridge work is based on several factors. These include the Forest Service's determinations of which types of uses (e.g. passenger car, high-clearance truck, and non-motorized vehicles) are appropriate for different roads; information from safety, road, and bridge data; and ecological considerations such as areas identified by the Watershed Condition Framework as needing restoration.¹⁷ Road standards, public expectations, and maintenance costs vary significantly between intermittent high-clearance routes (that are used by relatively few vehicles) and higher-speed paved highways (that may accommodate thousands of vehicles per day). The Forest Service prioritizes road maintenance each year, deciding which roads will be improved or maintained for public safety and needed access, while deferring other repairs. Sometimes road projects are too expensive to fund all at once, and access must be restricted on these roads until repairs can be funded. The Forest Service manages such roads by changing the permitted use (e.g. prohibiting passenger cars from using the road, or reducing the road from two lanes to one) or closing the road until repairs can be made.

Past Performance

Working with the Federal Highway Administration

The Forest Service Roads program collaborates with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), leveraging Federal highways funding to complete projects. In FY 2016, the Forest Service became a full partner with the FHWA under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.¹⁸ Through this partnership, the agency will improve roads for high-use recreation sites and reduce our deferred maintenance. The agency also improved watersheds by modifying areas where roads cross streams so that fish can pass through and the streams are resilient to flooding. The FAST Act allocated \$15 million of funding to the Forest Service in FY 2016, rising to \$19 million annually by FY 2020. In the first year of collaborating with the FHWA, we developed a multi-year investment strategy to prioritize which assets to address (see table). Selected projects will address goals of both the Department of Transportation and the Department of Agriculture to improve safety, connect people to the outdoors, strengthen communities, mitigate drought, and protect clean water sources by improving flood resilience at road-stream crossings and stabilizing roads and trails.

Repairing Roads in Remote Locations



Maintenance, repair, and construction on National Forest System roads can be costly due to the roads' remote locations and difficult terrain. Photo Credit: Forest Service.

Forest Service Priorities under the FAST Act

Priority Asset	Number Identified in Multi-Year Strategy
Roads	29,300 miles
Trails	30,000 miles
Bridges	2,430
Multimodal Facilities	82

¹⁷The Watershed Condition Framework is a methodology developed by the Forest Service to implement integrated suites of activities in those watersheds that have been identified as priorities for restoration. For more information, see http://www.fs.fed.us/sites/default/files/legacy_files/media/types/publication/field_pdf/Watershed_Condition_Framework.pdf

¹⁸Public Law 114-94.

Moon Lake Road Reconstruction



Reconstruction was completed in FY 2016, ensuring continued access to the economically important Moon Lake Campground and Moon Lake Resort. Photo Credits: Forest Service

The agency is also working with FHWA to meet requirements passed in 2012 to develop a road tunnel inspection program similar to the National Bridge Inspection Standards.¹⁹ In FY 2016, the Forest Service took an inventory of tunnels on National Forest System roads, and the agency is collaborating with FHWA to initiate a tunnel management and inspection program to improve public safety on the Forest Service transportation system.

Example of Using Federal Highway's Funds: Moon Lake Road Paving Project, Ashley National Forest, Utah

The Moon Lake Road project leveraged the Forest Service Road program appropriation with the FHWA funding to efficiently reconstruct five miles of road to Moon Lake, a popular recreation destination in the Ashley National Forest in Utah. The public makes heavy use of Moon Lake Resort (a family business) and Moon Lake Campground (managed by the Forest Service). This full-service recreation area includes cabins and facilities for camping, picnicking, hiking, swimming, and fishing. Tourism at Moon Lake is an important economic generator for the communities in the county. Stores, lodging, and outfitters and tour guides in the community depend on the economic activity generated by Moon Lake tourism. In addition, the Moon Lake road provides access to other lakes, trails, and attractions in the wilderness area for visitors.

¹⁹This requirement was included in the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21), signed into law in 2012.

Trails

Budget Line Item	Trails				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Trails					
Annual Appropriations	\$77,530	\$77,383	\$12,700	-\$64,683	-84%
Trails Total	77,530	77,383	12,700	-64,683	-84%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	583	583	532	-51	-9%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	583	583	532	-51	-9%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Trails			
Miles of system trails maintained	56,549	55,000	55,000
Miles of system trail improved	1,709	1,300	1,300
Percentage of system trails that meet national quality standards	24.0%	27.0%	27.0%

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

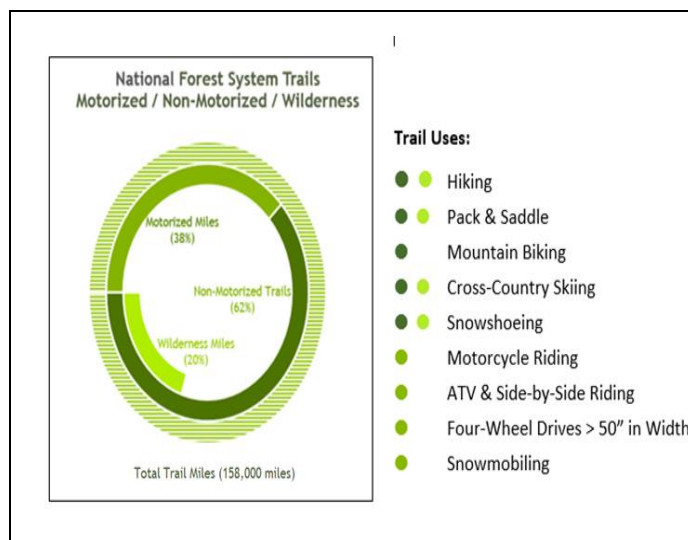
Justification of Increases and Decreases

Please refer to information about funding changes for Trails within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Overview section.

Program Overview

The NFS trail system is the largest managed system of trails in the country, containing over 158,000 miles of trails, including over 32,000 miles in designated Wilderness areas. NFS trails are so extensive, they could circle the Earth over six times.²⁰

We are also the lead agency responsible for trail-wide coordination and administration of six National Scenic and Historic Trails including: the Pacific Crest, Continental Divide, Florida, Arizona, and Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trails, and the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. The Forest Service also manages portions of 15 other Congressionally-designated trails, including the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and the Iditarod National Historic Trail.



²⁰ According to NASA, the circumference of the Earth is 40,070 kilometers, or 24,898 miles. See http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/features/cosmic/earth_info.html

Trails:

- Provide safe, high quality access for the public to enjoy a wide range of outdoor experiences including hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, all-terrain vehicle use, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.
- Support the efforts of the majority of outfitters and guides (approximately 5,000) who work on NFS lands and depend on trails that are safe, well-maintained, and available to the public.
- Provide safe and ready access to the backcountry for wildland firefighters, emergency response personnel, and natural resource managers.
- Minimize user impacts to watersheds and other natural and cultural resources, and promoting ecosystem health by protecting soil, vegetation, and water quality.
- Encourage citizen stewardship by thousands of partners and volunteers each year who provide critical help in maintaining trails, including clearing encroaching vegetation and fallen trees, repairing bridges, improving water drainage, and maintaining signs.

The Chugach National Forest, in partnership with the Interpretation & Conservation Education Program, worked with the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance and the Bureau of Land Management to kick off the seventh year of the Iditarod Trail to Every Classroom (iTREC!) program at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

Sixteen elementary school teachers participated from traditional, immersion, charter, and STEM schools. The program educated teachers on how place-based service learning can connect children to their public lands (special emphasis is placed on fourth-grade participation).

Past Performance

National Strategy for a Sustainable Trail System

In FY 2016, the Forest Service developed a *National Strategy for a Sustainable Trail System*. The Strategy provides direction and guidance on achieving a trail system that is socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable, and that is relevant and responsive to the needs of a diverse, changing population. The Strategy outlines a series of core values and strategic actions to be implemented through a shared stewardship approach between agency leaders and employees, partners, and volunteers. The major strategic actions laid out in the plan include shifting to collaboratively-stewarded trail systems; providing integrated training for managers, technicians, and partners and volunteers; gaining process efficiencies; and improving data systems and trail information.

Citizen Stewardship In Action



Volunteers installing an interpretive sign on the Nez Perce National Historic Trail. Photo Credit: Chuck Raddon.

Trails are a key conduit for connecting with and fostering citizen stewards. In FY 2016, citizen stewards—who are volunteers and service participants—spent 1.3 million hours maintaining and improving over 28,000 miles of NFS trails. To put this work in perspective, that length is 10 times the distance from Florida to Washington State. This enormous amount of work had an in-kind value of \$29.9 million to the NFS. Volunteer work on trails comprised over 29 percent of all volunteer and service hours contributed agency-wide.

Keeping Trails Safe



Left: Snow trail prior to maintenance. Right: After maintenance, the snow trail is restored to safety standards. Photo Credits: Chuck Raddon.

Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement

Budget Line Item	Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement					
Annual Appropriations	\$3,150	\$3,144	0	-\$3,144	-100%
Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement Total	3,150	3,144	0	-3,144	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	1	1	0	-1	-100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1	1	0	-1	-100%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

Please refer to information about funding changes for Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Overview section.

Program Overview

The Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement program addresses the maintenance backlog of Forest Service facilities, infrastructure, and assets. Deferred Maintenance refers to maintenance or repairs which should have been completed - either as part of a regular schedule, or after unforeseen events like storm damage - but that were delayed due to various reasons.

The Forest Service's assets include almost 28,000 recreation facilities, over 16,000 administrative buildings, fire and aviation infrastructure, over 13,000 bridges, and a road system long enough to circle the Earth almost 15 times. The Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement program funds maintenance, repairs, and restoration when project costs exceeds \$250,000 (it does not fund operation costs). Forest Service facilities, infrastructure, and assets have a backlog of over \$5.2 billion in maintenance and repair needs as of the end of FY 2014 (most recent data available).

This program may also fund infrastructure improvement projects, including building new facilities modifying existing facilities to change their function, and expanding facilities to increase their capacity. In many cases, infrastructure improvements eliminate deferred maintenance or are initiated as part of a deferred maintenance or repair project. These improvements bring infrastructure up to modern safety code, improve or establish its accessibility, increase its cost-effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability, reduce its negative impacts on the environment, and help our assets better serve the public.

Past Performance

Making Recreation Sustainable in the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

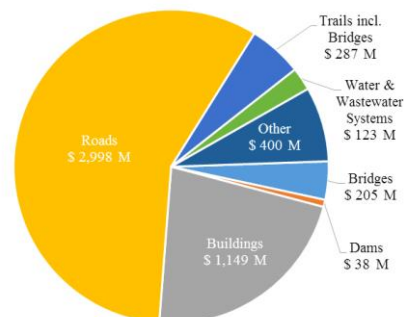
The San Gabriel Mountains National Monument in California, designated in 2014, is a prime example of how completing deferred maintenance is critical to providing safe facilities and protecting natural resources. The Forest Service provided funds in FY 2016 to address issues at this site.

Forest Service Assets	
Trails (miles)	157,348
Buildings	39,826
Recreation Facilities	27,849
Bridges	13,006
Drinking Water Systems	4,779
Wastewater Systems	4,764
Dams (agency owned)	460
Roads (miles)	370,581

Over 3.5 million visitors come to this area each year, placing exceptionally high demands on the site. The Cattle Canyon recreation area along the San Gabriel River is the most popular day-use area. Ninety-three percent of visitors to the river are Latino, and many come from communities with little access to parks, making it even more critical for the Forest Service to ensure that sustainable recreation opportunities are available.

Due to inadequate facilities, recreation at this site is not currently sustainable for either visitors or the environment. The site has few restrooms or trash cans, leading to severe trash pollution, which degrades the site's water quality, threatening aquatic life. Native aquatic life is also threatened by human-built dams and mechanical dredging for gold. There are few places to safely access the river, few interpretive programs and few rangers - especially multilingual rangers - to answer questions about the area.

Deferred Maintenance Backlog - \$5.2 Billion



Includes only funding required to keep assets fully functional. Excludes improvements unnecessary for basic maintenance.

San Gabriel Mountains National Monument



Left: The Forest Service provided funding in 2016 to address issues at Cattle Canyon, which currently has few restrooms, trash cans, or other facilities. Current parking is inadequate. Without proper facilities and site interpretation, intense recreational use degrades the resources visitors come to enjoy.

Right: In the absence of proper facilities and site interpretation, intense recreational use includes visitor-built pools that interrupt stream flow, create barriers to fish and aquatic organism passage, and impact water quality.

In FY 2016, the Forest Service provided \$925,000 for work at this site. Of this amount, \$400,000 funded an agreement with a local partner, the Watershed Conservation Authority (WCA). The WCA is providing a 20 percent funding match. This project will improve recreational opportunities for visitors and protect the environment by constructing parking, safe river access points, and restrooms. Trash cans and picnic tables will also be installed. A multi-lingual interpretive center will be added, and more multi-lingual rangers will be onsite.

The remaining \$525,000 funded an agreement with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to maintain and rehabilitate 75 miles of trails, and provide information about alternative recreation opportunities near Cattle Canyon. By doing so, the project will encourage recreational users to visit other parts of the Monument, decreasing the demand on Cattle Canyon. NFWF will contribute \$105,000 to the project.

Keeping the Mt. St. Helens Visitor Center Open

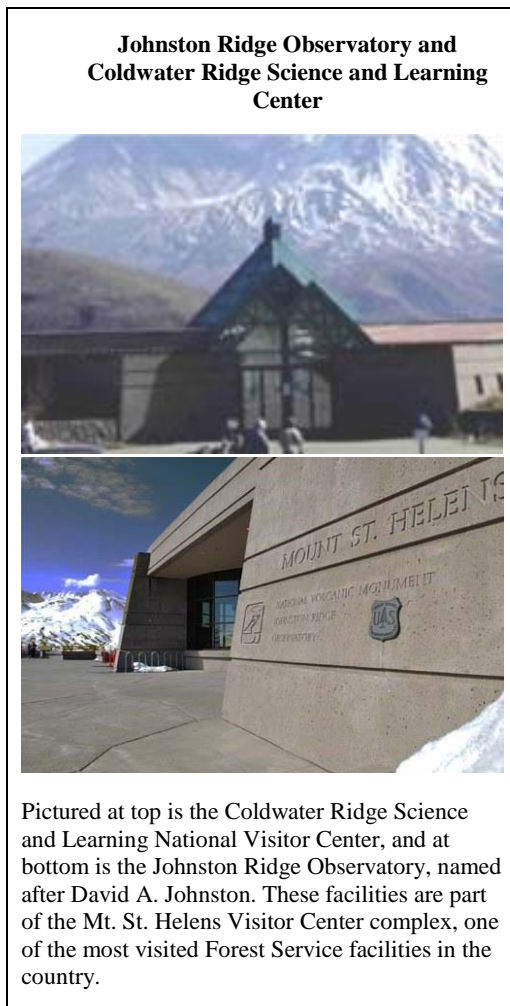
Located in southwestern Washington, Mt. St. Helens is one of several volcanic peaks in the Pacific Northwest and it is famous for its massive eruption in 1980, the most destructive in U.S. history. The eruption killed 57 people, including volcanologist David A. Johnston, and produced the largest landslide and debris avalanche ever recorded in the United States. Almost 150 square miles of forest were destroyed.

Today, the environment at Mt. St. Helens is recovering. It is now a site of national historic importance and a massive draw for tourists. Approximately 500,000 people visit this remote area each year. Recreational activities available include hiking, camping, boating, climbing, and wildlife viewing. Recreation at Mt. St. Helens also supports several tourism-dependent communities.

The Mt. St. Helens Visitor Center complex is one of the most visited Forest Service facilities in the country, but the deferred maintenance there has severely impacted visitors' ability to access this significant site. The Visitor Center has already had to close four times on an emergency basis because of septic and water system failures. The Johnston Ridge Observatory and Coldwater Ridge Science and Learning Center (National Visitor Center Complex) also has failing water, wastewater, and heating/cooling systems.

Addressing this deferred maintenance in FY 2016 was considered critical to keeping the Visitor Center complex open. Using \$450,000 in deferred maintenance funds, the agency repaired various utility systems, fire alarms, and fire-related safety infrastructure. This project will restore all utility systems to a proper and safe operating condition. This project also eliminates \$364,000 in deferred maintenance backlog.

By funding this project in FY 2016, the agency avoided imminent irreparable damage and the need for complete replacement of the utilities, which would have caused lengthy, season-long closures and been far more costly. The repairs were also mandatory under the Clean Water Act, and necessary to bring facilities up to code. This project also supported local economies by avoiding long-term closures of this popular visitor center.

*Enabling Staff to Fulfill the Mission*

The Corvallis Forestry Sciences Laboratory (CFSL) in Oregon has begun a complete renovation of its severely aging heating and cooling system. The system is so old that it is at risk of eminent failure. Some research in the lab is climate-dependent, so a failure of the heating and cooling system would damage or destroy long-term projects, possibly wiping out years of work and resources. Keeping the facility in adequate shape protects this valuable research.

Renovation of the Laboratory was funded with \$1.72 million from the Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement program in FY 2016. When complete, it will eliminate \$1.3 million in deferred maintenance backlog. The project will update most of the heating and cooling systems to meet current energy efficiency standards. It will also modernize several large walk-in refrigerators that serve the research facility. Those which are no longer needed will be removed, and the vacated space will be converted to offices to address overcrowding. The project will bring much of the facility into compliance with the USDA office space utilization standards, making agency use of this space much more efficient.

Fixing these systems will also help keep other organizations in the building, contributing to the cost of building maintenance. The nearly half century-old CFSL building houses approximately 330 people from five different organizations, including the offices of the Siuslaw National Forest; the Natural Resource Manager system (a critical Forest Service database); the United States Geological Survey Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center; Oregon State University offices; and the Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station. With updated heating and cooling systems, these organizations will remain in the building, and non-Forest Service tenants will continue to pay rent, offsetting some maintenance costs.

Legacy Roads and Trails

Budget Line Item	Legacy Roads and Trails				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Legacy Roads and Trails Annual Appropriations	\$40,000	\$39,924	0	-\$39,924	-100%
Legacy Roads and Trails Total	40,000	39,924	0	-\$39,924	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	77	77	0	-77	-100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	77	77	0	-77	-100%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Legacy Roads and Trails			
Miles of roads decommissioned	937	2,000	0

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

Please refer to information about funding changes for Legacy Roads and Trails within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Overview section.

Program Overview

The Legacy Roads and Trails Program has a different mission than the Roads Program. Legacy Roads and Trails funds are not used to build new roads, but to repair degraded roads and trails in environmentally sensitive areas where further degradation may affect community water supplies or threatened and endangered species. This program does substantial reconstruction work. It replaces bridges and culverts, helps fix damaged roads and trails, restores unneeded roads and trails to a more natural state, and removes or replaces pipes and other structures that prevent fish and other aquatic organisms from reaching their traditional habitat.

Past Performance

Key outcomes of the Legacy Roads and Trails program include improving the safety of roads for drivers, restoring the ability for fish and other aquatic organisms to travel via water under the road (called Aquatic Organism Passage), eliminating road sediment flowing to streams, and increasing roads' ability to withstand floods. The agency prioritizes projects that benefit Federally-listed fish and other important aquatic species, reconnect significant pieces of habitat, improve water quality, protect roads, and leverage funding from partners. With sufficient time, resources, and collaboration, the agency has reversed damage to landscapes and restored healthy ecosystems.

Fixing the One Thousandth Culvert to Reconnect Habitat

In FY 2016, the Legacy Roads and Trails program reached a milestone, upgrading its 1,000th culvert to reconnect aquatic habitat on National Forest System (NFS) lands. The Forest Service worked with conservation and recreation groups, private landowners, and local governments, leveraging funds to reach this goal.

Undersized culverts can prevent 60 to 90 percent of fish from swimming upstream, cutting native salmon, bull trout, and other fish off from their breeding grounds. Fixed culverts, have successfully reconnected thousands of miles of fish habitat and helped to restore fish that are important to the economy, recreation, and the environment.

Since 2008, Legacy Roads and Trails has:

- restored fish passage at 1,000 sites, providing access to over 1,000 miles of habitat;
- improved almost 18,000 miles of roads for safety and flood resiliency;
- removed 6,722 miles of unneeded roads to reconnect habitat and reduce erosion of soil into streams;
- constructed or reconstructed 141 bridges for safety;
- upgraded or fixed 4,390 miles of trails so people can enjoy areas they love;
- reduced annual road maintenance costs by approximately \$3.5 million per year; and
- created or maintained an average of 800-1,200 jobs annually.

Restoring a Degraded Watershed: Skokomish River, WA

The Skokomish River is the most frequently flooded river in Washington State. The river is also critical habitat for Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. These fish are all listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. In 2010, as part of a nationwide Watershed Condition Framework process, the Forest Service classified the South Fork Skokomish as an “at-risk” watershed. Studies highlighted the damaging impacts of roads and the need to remove and stabilize roads in the watershed.

The Forest Service targeted the areas highlighted by the studies, restoring former roads to their natural state and stabilizing degrading areas. Years of removing and properly rebuilding old roads in the watershed have paid off. In FY 2016, the Olympic National Forest completed the last of the large-scale road removal and stabilization projects in the upper watershed. In all, the agency removed 91 miles of road, closed or converted that land to trails, and stabilized or improved 85 miles of road with new culverts and drainage features. Much of the recent road restoration work was funded through the Legacy Roads and Trails Program, with partner funding from the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and stewardship receipts from commercial thinning timber sales.

As a result, in accordance with the Watershed Condition Framework guidelines, the upper South Fork of the Skokomish River area has been reclassified as a “properly functioning watershed”. Restoring this area is also critical to allowing salmon to recover in the Hood Canal and Puget Sound. Watershed conditions are still recovering, but key watershed processes have largely been restored so watershed conditions and aquatic habitat will continue to improve over time.

Restoring the Skokomish



In a project nicknamed “the Big Dig,” crews removed nearly 100 vertical feet of road in the South Fork of the Skokomish watershed to remove an eight-foot culvert (left). The river is returned to its natural state after the road and culvert are removed (right). Photo Credits: Forest Service.

Land Acquisition

Appropriation	Land Acquisition				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Land Acquisition					
Annual Appropriations	\$63,435	\$63,314	\$7,000	-\$56,314	-89%
Land Acquisition Total	63,435	63,314	7,000	-56,314	-89%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	48	52	52	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	48	52	52	0	0%

Appropriation	Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts					
Annual Appropriations	\$950	\$948	\$850	-\$98	-10%
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts Total	950	948	850	-98	-10%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%

Appropriation	Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges					
Annual Appropriations	\$216	\$216	\$192	-\$24	-11%
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges Total	216	216	192	-24	-11%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%

Performance Measure	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
	Actual	Target	Target
Land Acquisition (Appropriation)			
Number of acres acquired or donated (Discretionary funds)	27,844	22,539	0
Priority acres acquired or donated that reduce the conversion of forests, grasslands, and aquatic and riparian ecosystems to incompatible uses in order to improve and maintain ecological conditions for federally listed and candidate species, species of concern and species of interest (Discretionary funds)	18,370	16,944	0

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

Land Acquisition

The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$8,042,000 for the Land Acquisition program, a net decrease of \$56,436,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$29,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$10,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 0 staff years (\$64,478,000 and 52 staff years available in 2017).

A decrease of \$56,314,000 in Land Acquisition. The FY 2018 budget proposes \$7,000,000 to maintain staff to complete current land acquisition transactions. No new land acquisition projects are proposed in the FY 2018 budget. No new land acquisition projects are proposed in the FY 2018 budget.

A decrease of \$98,000 for the Acquisition of Lands for National Forest Special Acts. The FY 2018 budget request also proposes \$850,000 for the Acquisition of Lands for National Forest Special Acts, a net decrease of \$98,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR and 0 staff years (\$948,000 and 0 staff years available in 2017). This funding level will support projects to acquire lands necessary to protect watersheds, minimize soil erosion, and rehabilitate specific national forests in Nevada, Utah, California and Arkansas.

A decrease of \$24,000 for the Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges. The FY 2018 budget request proposes \$192,000 for the Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges, a net decrease of \$24,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR and 0 staff years (\$216,000 and 0 staff years available in 2017). This program provides for the acquisition of lands with funds collected from the exchange or sale of the National Forest System (NFS) lands with State, county, or municipal governments, public school authorities or other non-Federal parties allowed under various authorities.

Program Overview

The Forest Service prioritizes land acquisitions that have broad support by stakeholders, local officials, and others at the local level who want to remove barriers to public access, and attract more visitors who want to recreate in a safe, accessible environment.

The agency evaluates proposed recreational access tracts for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funding based on the following criteria:

- How does the acquisition solve a specific access problem or overcome a barrier to access?
- What is the size and configuration of the tract relative to the NFS lands around it? How much of the tract borders existing NFS or other publicly accessible lands?
- What types of recreational access would the land provide?
- Has the public indicated that more or improved access is needed in this area?
- What is the level of local support for the acquisition?

Acquisition of Lands for National Forests Special Acts and Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges

The agency can also acquire lands in certain national forests for specified purposes, and use funds collected from the exchange or sale of NFS lands for other land acquisitions, as follows:

Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts – This program provides for the acquisition of lands to protect watersheds, minimize soil erosion, and rehabilitate specified national forests in Nevada, Utah, California, and Arkansas.

Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges – This program provides for the acquisition of lands with funds collected from the exchange or sale of the NFS lands with State, county, or municipal governments, public school authorities, or other non-Federal parties, allowed under various authorities.

Other Land Acquisition Management Activities

Land Adjustments – Adjusting land ownership with willing landowners can secure public recreational use access to reach existing NFS lands and resolve trespasses and encroachments. The Forest Service also does land exchanges, purchases lands and interests in land, accepts land donations, and sells land through qualifying situations, such as the Small Tracts Act. These activities are all categorized as land adjustments. It allows the agency to more effectively implement and align land management activities with forest management plans. Additionally, the agency is able to convey properties to non-Federal owners where the NFS lands have lost their national forest character or lack public or administrative access through land exchanges.

Boundary and Title Management – The program provides professional land surveys, including property boundary surveys, locating and marking NFS property lines and administrative boundaries. The agency also describes and locates rights-of-way easements and grants, research land titles, provides expert witness testimony, and provide geospatial and geodetic services to protect and identify the title, land ownership, and use of the public estate. As of FY 2016, the Forest Service has 276,000 miles of property line, of which only 41,000 miles (15 percent) are currently marked to Forest Service standards due to limited resources. This program activity, in cooperation with the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management and State Licensed Surveyors, manage and execute the documentation, marking and posting of property boundaries, write legal descriptions for the acquisition and disposal of NFS lands, and locate and prepare legal descriptions for the on-the-ground public identification of congressionally designated area boundaries.

This program is instrumental in the identification and validation of land title claims, Tribal land claims, suspected trespass and encroachments, and unauthorized uses on NFS lands. The land title/land ownership component includes title claim research, inventory, and investigation. Title claims, encroachments, and trespass on NFS lands, often resulting from unmarked and unmaintained boundaries, threaten loss of open space, increase the risk of invasive species, cause loss or damages to public resources, and reduce access to public lands. There are an estimated 30,000 incidents of trespassing and encroachments, including abandoned vehicles, buildings and roads, currently on NFS lands. Forest Service staff use a Title Claims and Encroachments Management System to inventory, track, and monitor these cases. For example, 1,452 title claims were resolved in FY 2016. Forest Service Land Surveyors and Lands staff continually enter and update all incidents in the system, helping inform decisions to determine where there are significant threats to resource management, how best to invest staff time and resources, and address significant threats to resource management. The Land and Realty Management staff manages the official land status record system, which compiles legally defensible boundary information and accurate, complete landownership records of NFS lands.

Tracking Damaging Encroachments on NFS Lands – Properly marked and maintained boundaries and clear title ownership deter and reduce trespass and encroachments, identify public access to the national forests and grasslands, and enable land managers to carry out resource priorities on the ground. Absent accurately located and clearly

**National Forest of North Carolina
Buck Creek Gap Recreational Area**



Forest land acquired and used for recreational purposes. Photo provided by the Forest Service

marked and posted property boundaries, Forest Service staff, contractors, cooperators and adjoining landowners do not know where the public estate is located, and are unable to implement projects on the ground. This can lead to the inadvertent inclusion of adjoining private lands in project work.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, the agency maintained and opened public access, completed exchanges or conveyances required by law, and implemented a new database to track more than 40,000 title claims and encroachments on NFS lands.

Ensuring Recreational Access for the Public

Land acquisition funds are used to secure access for the American public to their Federal lands for a variety of recreational purposes. The agency uses funding to meet public recreation access needs by working with willing landowners to secure rights-of-way, easements, or fee simple lands that provide or improve public access to existing public lands so that the public has large, intact areas for recreation. While collectively over 90 percent of land acquisition funding supports projects that will provide public access, the Forest Service sets aside separate funding, totaling \$4.7 million in FY 2016, for priority recreational access projects.

The Forest Service recognizes the critical need to improve access to areas that have high demand for hunting, fishing, and other types of recreation. For example, in 2016 the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest in Montana used recreational access funds for phase one of an 800-acre acquisition in Zeke's Meadow, an area popular for elk hunting. The project included 15 miles of trail into the Sapphire Wilderness Study Area and access to a trout stream for fishing on Moose Meadow Creek.

Zeke's Meadow, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest, Montana



The Forest Service used LWCF funding to acquire Zeke's Meadow for hunting and fishing.

Simplifying Agency Criteria

The program continues to refine its business practices to emphasize transparency and bring efficiencies to the field and partners. In FY 2016, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) criteria were revised to reduce the workload to the field and partners, and to make the evaluation process easier to understand. Previously, the agency used two sets of criteria to evaluate projects – one set at the Regional level, and another set at the National level. All projects are now evaluated using the same set of criteria. The move to one set of criteria cuts the work required to create proposal packages by half, because applicants no longer have to write two applications using different sets of criteria, and it is easier for applicants and the public to understand. The Forest Service posted the “2018 LWCF Criteria and Guidance” on a public facing website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/land/staff/LWCF/>.

Land Adjustment

Land adjustment, primarily conducted through land purchases, land exchanges, donations and conveyances, is one of many tools to support resource objectives, and is a multi-year process. In FY 2016, the agency exchanged or conveyed nearly 74,000 acres. Approximately 70,000 of these acres are from a legislatively mandated conveyance from the Tongass National Forest to the Sealaska Corporation. The balance, nearly 4,000 acres spread across multiple forests, represent opportunities to achieve agency management objectives and public benefit, such as improved recreational access to NFS lands for neighboring communities and the public. The cost and size of such exchanges and conveyances vary. The land adjustment program tracks the number of acquisition and donation cases that are completed within 18 months of appropriations. A study of five years of completed acquisitions and donations found that 83 percent of cases are closed within 18 months. While the majority of land acquisitions take 18 months to close because two field seasons are required, efforts to improve processing time include working with appraisal, survey, and other support staffs to do more due diligence for acquisitions in the late fall and early winter, which would provide more time for these activities and reduce pressure on staffs to do the bulk of this work in the

spring and summer. The program aims to have 60 percent of cases close in the year in which funds are appropriated.

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Other Appropriations

Range Betterment Fund

Appropriation	Range Betterment Fund				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Range Betterment Fund					
Annual Appropriations	\$2,320	\$2,316	\$2,065	-\$251	-11%
Range Betterment Fund Total	2,320	2,316	2,065	-251	-11%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	6	6	5	-1	-17%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	6	6	5	-1	-17%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Range Betterment Fund			
Number of range structural improvements	57	200	195

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$2,065,000 for the Range Betterment program, a decrease of \$251,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$5,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$12,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of one staff year (\$2,316,000 and six staff years available in 2017).

In FY 2018, the Budget proposes \$2,065,000 to construct and improve structures vital to grazing activities, such as fencing, and non-structural measures to improve vegetative health.

Program Overview

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, (43 U.S.C. 1751) P.L. 94-579, as amended by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 1751(b) (1) P.L. 95-514, authorizes the Range Betterment program. It also authorizes the allocation of one-half of grazing receipts from National Forest System (NFS) lands in 16 western States to rehabilitate, protect, and improve rangelands on the NFS lands from which the receipts were collected. This program supports all of the same economic activities associated with the Grazing Management program, and complements the work done with appropriated funds, but at a limited scale commensurate with the funding available from grazing receipts. These activities enhance or stabilize vegetative conditions, improve water quality, maintain riparian areas and stream banks while conserving threatened or endangered plant and animal species. Funds may also be used to treat noxious weeds that are present as a result of permitted livestock grazing.

These activities enhance or stabilize vegetative conditions, improve water quality, maintain riparian areas and stream banks while conserving threatened or endangered plant and animal species. Grazing activities are vital to rural economies with grazing on NFS lands contributing over 14,000 jobs and \$706 million to the Nation's economy each year. The program also funds structures such as fences and livestock watering facilities, which are essential to grazing permittees for effective livestock management. Funds may also be used to treat noxious weeds that are present as a result of permitted livestock grazing.

Past Performance

The work accomplished with the Range Betterment Fund is important to maintain rangeland health and viability and to maintain water quality and soil health. The structures constructed or improved through this program help manage the movement of animals to provide for proper range management and maintain or improve plant health. Non-structural rangeland improvement activities, such as removing noxious weeds and invasive plants and brush control, reduce fire risk on rangelands by limiting plant densities and/or by changing species composition. The mix of activities conducted in FY 2016 included completing range structural improvements, performing rangeland vegetation improvement work, and treating noxious weeds.

Gifts, Donations, and Bequest to Forest and Rangeland Research

Appropriation	Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research					
Annual Appropriations	\$45	\$45	\$45	0	0%
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research Total	45	45	45	0	0%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$45,000 for the Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Forest and Rangeland Research program, the same level as the FY 2017 Annualized CR.

Program Overview

This special account serves for acceptance of gifts, donations, and bequests for deposit that are used to establish or operate any forest and rangeland research facility. These gifts or donations can be received from outside sources, such as individuals and businesses.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, the Forest Service received donations from individuals and businesses for research work units and other organizational sub-units to further their research and development programs. The funds were used to purchase supplies and equipment, and for travel to training and seminars.

Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses

Appropriation	Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses					
Annual Appropriations	\$2,500	\$2,495	\$2,225	-\$270	-11%
Management of National Forest Lands for Subsistence Uses Total	2,500	2,495	2,225	-270	-11%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	12	12	11	-1	-8%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	12	12	11	-1	-8%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$2,225,000 for the Management of National Forest Lands and Subsistence Uses program, a decrease of \$270,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$10,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$24,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of one staff year (\$2,495,000 and 12 staff years available in 2017).

In FY 2018, the budget proposes \$2,225,000 which will slightly decrease the agency's ability to provide employment in isolated rural communities, educate subsistence users, develop and enforce regulations, and monitor fish and wildlife populations.

Program Overview

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) (16 U.S.C. 3101) provides rural Alaskan residents a subsistence priority to harvest fish and wildlife on Federal lands over sport and commercial uses. ANILCA envisioned that the State of Alaska would manage this rural priority, as was the case for 10 years. However, the statute was found to conflict with the Alaska State Constitution, which prohibits granting subsistence priority to only rural residents. As a result, the Federal government assumed responsibility for subsistence management on Federal public lands in 1990. Alaska is the only State in which Federal agencies have a direct hand in managing the harvest of fish and resident wildlife populations on Federal lands.

The Subsistence program provides vital employment in remote rural areas keeps fish and wildlife harvests sustainable, enforces regulations, and educates subsistence users.

Providing Employment

The subsistence program provides vital employment in isolated rural communities. Many of these are Tribal communities, where opportunities are severely limited. By hiring local residents to monitor fish and wildlife populations, the program also builds capacity in Tribal governments to participate in State and Federal regulatory decisions regarding fish and wildlife issues.

Conserving Fish and Wildlife

Fish and wildlife populations must be monitored for regulatory purposes, and to ensure that populations remain sustainable. Monitoring provides local jobs in rural communities with Tribal and other local organizations, informs regulatory changes, and indicates when emergency actions are necessary to curtail harvest in-season to assure conservation of viable populations.

Providing for Sustainable Harvests

To ensure that rural residents on Federal lands have priority to harvest fish and wildlife, and that their harvest is sustainable, Federal subsistence hunting and fishing regulations must be reviewed each year. Annually, the Forest Service, through the interagency Federal Subsistence Board, addresses up to 70 proposed changes to existing fish or wildlife regulations, responds to numerous fish and wildlife special action requests (emergency conservation actions), and responds to more than 3,000 requests for harvest permits.

Educating Users and Enforcing Regulations

The Forest Service educates subsistence users and others to reduce the need for enforcement action. However, enforcement is sometimes necessary to protect subsistence users' priority to harvest wildlife and to conserve healthy wildlife populations. The Forest Service enforces Federal regulations for harvesting fish and wildlife on 22 million acres, approximately 75 waterways and navigable lakes, and areas of Prince William Sound.

Past Performance

To ensure the program is supporting rural communities and wildlife populations, the Forest Service has implemented a number of critical monitoring and management actions.

Over the past 16 years this program has improved information on subsistence resources and uses on National Forest System lands in Alaska. The program has vastly improved relationships, cooperation, and coordination with Tribal governments, rural communities, State agencies and other Federal agencies. Information provided by this program is critical for decision-making by the Federal Subsistence Board and Forest Service in-season managers for making emergency closures and other in-season adjustments to fish and wildlife harvest regulations. The agency is gaining insights on the biology, abundance, and use of species important to rural users, such as salmon, moose, deer, mountain goats, and black bears. The agency is learning new techniques to lower costs for counting salmon through advanced remote sensing technology. It is continuing to learn how to involve, interact and work with the tribes, rural communities and the State on complex fish and wildlife management issues.

Since the initiation of the Forest Service Subsistence Fisheries Monitoring Program in FY 2000, we have worked cooperatively with 11 Tribal organizations in Southeast Alaska including:

- Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes of Alaska,
- Yakutat Tlingit Tribe,
- Sitka Tribe of Alaska, Angoon Community Association,
- Hoonah Indian Association,
- Organized Village of Kake,
- Organized Village of Kasaan,
- Wrangell Cooperative Association,
- Klawock Cooperative Association, and
- Craig Cooperative Association, and Hydaburg Cooperative Association.

Supporting Rural Communities

Over the life of the program, \$26 million has been invested to complete 86 projects in the Subsistence Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program on lands managed by the Forest Service. Nearly \$14 million of that directly funded contracts with Tribal governments to perform this work. In 2016, this program funded direct contracts with Tribes and supported 30 jobs in rural Alaskan communities with chronically high unemployment rates.

Together with the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service also expanded consultations on the Federal subsistence program, including annual rulemaking, with all Alaskan Tribes and Native Corporations. This complies with and Department of Agriculture policies, and respects current and historical roles of native Alaskans in managing for their customary and traditional subsistence uses.

Ensuring a Sustainable Harvest

In FY 2016, the Forest Service completed 13 analyses to determine appropriate harvest levels for fish and wildlife species, and to determine appropriate management actions to provide for subsistence uses on the national forests in Alaska. The Forest Service also analyzed and implemented several actions to address immediate conservation and

subsistence use issues, including emergency closures to avoid over-harvesting. Also in FY 2016, the agency oversaw nine salmon stock assessment projects, one black bear monitoring project, 27 deer surveys, and four population surveys for other subsistence-harvested wildlife species.

Working Cooperatively to Restore Salmon



The Hatchery Creek weir (a structure that directs the passage of fish) allows the agency to conduct research on salmon. The weir is jointly run by the Forest Service and the Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK). The Forest Service provided project guidance, while OVK provided a full time crew to operate the weir. In this photo, Russell Snook of OVK prepares to take a sample of scales from a Sockeye salmon to determine its age. (Photo Credit: Forest Service)

Using Technology to Conserve Salmon



Left photo – this weir, at the outlet of Kook Lake on Chichagof Island, Southeast Alaska, has video cameras to “capture” and count Sockeye salmon - and a floating research camp for technicians. Right photo - Fisheries technicians from the Angoon Community Association working in their floating camp. This project is a cooperative effort, funded by the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program, between the Forest Service and the Tribal Government of Angoon. (Photo Credit: Forest Service)

Wildland Fire Management

Appropriation	Wildland Fire Management (dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Wildland Fire Management					
Annual Appropriations	\$2,386,329	\$2,381,795	\$2,495,038	\$113,243	5%
Wildland Fire Management Total	2,386,329	2,381,795	2,495,038	113,243	5%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	12,248	12,248	10,207	-2,041	-17%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	12,248	12,248	10,207	-2,041	-17%
Wildland Fire Management					
Preparedness	1,082,620	1,080,563	1,339,620	259,057	24%
Suppression	811,000	809,459	1,056,818	247,359	31%
Research and Development	19,795	19,757	17,600	-2,157	-11%
Joint Fire Science Program	6,914	6,901	0	-6,901	-100%
Hazardous Fuels	375,000	374,288	0	-374,288	-100%
State Fire Assistance	78,000	77,852	69,400	-8,452	-11%
Volunteer Fire Assistance	13,000	12,975	11,600	-1,375	-11%

Note 1: Prior to FY 2017, the Hazardous Fuels BLI was included under Wildland Fire Management. Hazardous Fuels is fundamentally a land management activity and is therefore included under the National Forest System section in this document.

Note 2: The change in FTEs between FY 2017 and FY 2018 is a decrease of 2,041 because this accounts for the FTEs that moved to the National Forest System appropriation when Hazardous Fuels was moved. The overall decrease in FTEs for this appropriation is actually 226.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$2,495,038,000 for Wildland Fire Management, an increase of \$113,243,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$5,255,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$15,017,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 2,041 staff years (\$2,381,795 and 12,248 staff years available in 2017).

The decrease in staff years is mainly due to the proposed shift of the Hazardous Fuels program and funding to the National Forest System (NFS) account. Hazardous fuels work is fundamentally a land management activity that takes place on NFS lands, with some exceptions. Integrating the Hazardous Fuels program with other NFS programs which allow more efficient and effective planning and execution of programs and projects that address active forest health management.

The Forest Service provides the majority of aviation assets for wildland firefighting efforts on NFS lands, other Federal, State, and local jurisdictions. Serving as the contracting source for these assets provides – (1) cost effectiveness through economies of scale and other market factors and (2) operational efficiencies in delivering critical resources for wildland firefighting efforts.

The budget will fund up to 20 airtankers and 61 type 1 and 2 helicopters under exclusive use contracts. In FY 2018, these contracts will be funded with both Preparedness and Suppression funding. Airtanker contracts only include next generation large airtankers because the legacy airtanker contract ends at the end of FY 2017. In 2018, the agency will fund one HC-130H aircraft on loan from the U.S. Coast Guard from Preparedness funds.

As part of a more standard structure for planning and budgeting, the Forest Service will fund all other exclusive use aviation contracts with Preparedness funding, and all other call-when-needed aviation contracts with Suppression funding, and will use call-when-needed contracts and leverage other Federal and cooperator assets for additional aerial firefighting resources, as necessary.

The split in 2018 for airtankers is based on analysis on the utilization of contracted aviation assets over the last five years, which shows these assets are used on (1) Forest Service incidents between 45-49 percent of the time, (2) the

Department of the Interior (DOI) incidents 16-20 percent of the time, and (4) State and local incidents 35 percent of the time. Beginning in 2018, the Forest Service will initiate transition to a full cost recovery business model for aviation utilized by cooperating agencies. This will be accomplished through cooperative authorities and agreements.

Starting in 2018, the Forest Service is moving to a more standard structure for planning and budgeting firefighting personnel resources by funding all base 8 costs with Preparedness funds. Base 8 is the first eight hours per day worked by a firefighter (a permanent firefighter is a person that charges more than 50 percent of time per year to Preparedness and Suppression accounts). Since 2004, Forest Service firefighters would charge base 8 to Preparedness and, once on a fire, would then charge base 8 to Suppression. This approach will improve accountability at both the National and Regional levels and is consistent with DOI business practice. To maintain the level of firefighting resources, funding is shifted from the Suppression program and the rolling ten-year average is rebased.

As directed by Congress in the FY 2014 Consolidated Appropriations Act, a detailed table of actual and proposed estimated spending on fire operations, including aviation resources is included below:

Preparedness and Suppression Costs

(dollars in millions)

Preparedness	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Firefighters	\$459	\$377	\$556
Firefighting Equipment and Support	232	217	217
Aviation Contracts/Support	127	244	244
Agency Cost Pools	265	243	323
Total Preparedness Spending¹	\$1,083	\$1,081	\$1,340

Suppression²	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Firefighters	\$420	\$433	\$287
Fire Suppression Operations and Logistics	867	818	582
Aviation Operations	96	95	90
Interagency and State Fire Support ³	205	173	73
Burned Area Emergency Response	11	25	25
Agency Cost Pools	80	87	0
Total Suppression Spending⁴	\$1,679⁵	\$1,631	\$1,057

¹The Preparedness program ensures that fire management assets, such as large airtankers, helicopters, hot shot crews, and smoke jumpers are available to support initial attack response operations on the National Forest System, other Federal, State, and private lands.

²Includes both Suppression and FLAME funding in FY 2016 Enacted and FY 2017 Annualized CR.

³Includes costs incurred by the Forest Service while providing support to the DOI and State fire operations.

⁴The Suppression program ensures that fire management assets, such as large airtankers, helicopters, hot shot crews, and smoke jumpers are available to support extended attack operations at fires on the NFS, other Federal, State, and private lands.

⁵This total includes costs (\$75 million) moved from Preparedness to Suppression.

Resource Summary FY 2016 to FY 2018

Resource	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Firefighters (FFTR) – Total is inclusive of categories below	10,000	10,000	10,000
Type I Interagency Hot Shot Crews (20-person)	67 crews 1,340 FFTR	67 crews 1,340 FFTR	67 crews 1,340 FFTR
Other Firefighters	7,940	7,940	7,940
Smoke Jumpers	320	320	320
Prevention Technicians	400	400	400
Engines	900	900	900
Heavy Equipment – Dozers, Tractor Plow Units, Tenders	210	210	210
Helicopters			
Type 1 ¹	34	28	28
Type 2	33	33	33
Type 3 ²	46	46	46
Airtankers			
Legacy Airtankers ³	6	4	0
Next Generation Airtankers ³	14	16	Up to 20
U.S. Coast Guard aircraft converted airtankers HC-130H	0	1	1
Single Engine Airtankers	0	0	1
Scoopers	2	2	0

¹Includes only agency owned/leased or exclusive use contracted assets.

²Includes only helicopters whose primary purpose is wildland fire response.

³Numbers reflect maximum number of aircraft allowed under the contracts.

Wildland Fire Management Overview

Fire management activities are subsuming the agency's budget and jeopardizing the agency's ability to successfully implement the full mission. The size and complexity of fires has grown in recent years as has the frequency of catastrophically large fires that risk life and property. At the same time, the wildland-urban interface (WUI) has continued to expand. Fire transfers continue to be utilized to ensure that sufficient resources are available for fire management expenses, but the associated loss in momentum for critical restoration programs can exacerbate the complexity and intensity of fire suppression operations in subsequent years.

Beginning in FY 2018, the Forest Service, will change agency policy and charge all Base 8 pay costs for fire fighters to Preparedness funding, a change that is consistent with the business rule for these costs at the DOI. The shift of Base 8 from Suppression to Preparedness necessitates a re-baselining of the 10-year average and recalculation of the out-year forecast. To re-baseline, the agency calculated Base 8 expenditures in Suppression from FY 2004 to FY 2016. The total Base 8 expenditure is comprised of firefighter salary and benefits, cost pools, and Unemployment Compensation Insurance. Re-baselining prior to FY 2004 was not necessary because it was not agency policy at the time to charge Base 8 to Suppression. The re-baselined 10-year average (with expenditures through the FY 2016 fire season) is \$1.057 billion – a reduction of nearly \$225 million. The reduction to the 10-year average is not the entire amount of Base 8 needed when Base 8 shifts to Preparedness. Too adequately cover Base 8 expenditures, a \$259 million increase to Preparedness is necessary based on the average of the last three year's adjusted to 2016 dollars. The agency has made great progress in its continued focus on risk-based decision making when responding to wildfires, and in FY 2018 will continue this important work to better inform decision makers on the risks and tradeoffs associated with wildfire management decisions. In FY 2018, the Forest Service will continue to work with other Federal agencies on continuous improvement and learning on how risk management is practiced in wildland fire management to solidify the concept of shared risk, a central tenet of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy). The Cohesive Strategy establishes a shared vision between Federal and non-Federal entities for managing wildland fires.

The Wildland Fire Management program also recognizes the importance of integrating fire as a critical natural process in land and resource management plans and activities, managing wildfire across landownership boundaries, and applying the best available science.

Preparedness

Budget Line Item	Preparedness				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Preparedness					
Annual Appropriations	\$1,082,620	\$1,080,563	\$1,339,620	\$259,057	24%
Preparedness Total	1,082,620	1,080,563	1,339,620	259,057	24%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	7,359	7,170	7,030	-140	-2%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	7,359	7,170	7,030	-140	-2%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Preparedness			
Percent change from the 10-year average for the number of wildfires controlled during initial attack.	-0.4%	0.2%	0.2%

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$1,339,620,000 for the Preparedness program, an increase of \$259,057,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$3,619,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$10,343,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease of 140 staff years (\$1,080,563,000 and 7,170 staff years available in 2017).

The Forest Service is moving to a better, more disciplined budget structure with the goal of improving accountability at both the National and Regional level, and added functionality for planning budgetary resources to support the appropriate level of firefighting resources. Base 8 is the first eight hours per day worked by a fire fighter (a permanent fire fighter is a person that charges more than 50 percent of time per year to Preparedness and Suppression accounts). Since 2004, Forest Service firefighters would charge Base 8 to Preparedness and, once on a fire, would then charge Base 8 to Suppression. This business practice was different than the Department of the Interior (DOI) where Base 8 is always charged to Preparedness; even when working a wildland fire. With the proposed increase, Forest Service firefighters will charge all Base 8 to Preparedness and, per the jointly developed business rules, fund additional hours spent on a fire to Suppression. This funding was shifted from the Suppression program. The decrease in staff years is due to increased pay costs.

Program Overview

A robust Preparedness program supports initial attack operations and is essential to reducing the costs associated with wildfire suppression. The Forest Service utilizes the Preparedness program to maintain an organization that ensures timely, appropriate, risk-informed, and effective response. The Preparedness program ensures that fire management assets, such as large air tankers, helicopters, hot shot crews and smokejumpers, are available to support response operations on National Forest System, other Federal, State, and private lands. Response efforts reduce the threats to life and values at risk, promote ecosystem integrity and are consistent with land management objectives laid out in the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy Managing wildland fire response requires partnerships across Federal, State, and private entities, because wildfires do not follow jurisdictional boundaries. Successful firefighting has evolved into a robust, coordinated, multi-jurisdictional effort. Leveraging the capabilities of Federal, State, and local partners has increased wildland firefighting capacity nationwide. Technological improvements have helped enhance decision support and response strategies.

Preparedness also supports other elements of wildland fire management efforts, including planning, prevention, education, information technology development, and decision support systems. The Preparedness program supports internal and external training and education, development and advancement of firefighting technology, and organizational learning. In addition, the agency has developed several outreach and educational tools to enhance fire-adapted community practices, including the Fire Learning Network, Fire Adapted Communities, *Ready Set Go!*, and the Wildland Fire Assessment.

Past Performance

During the 2016 fire season, the agency used 14 next generation airtankers and continued to fly six legacy airtankers under exclusive use contracts. This expanded capability and increased retardant delivery capacity complemented the efforts of ground-based firefighters.

The Forest Service updated the 2012 Large Airtanker Modernization Strategy per Congressional direction to continue modernizing our fleet through 2020. The agency also continued the Aerial Firefighting Use and Effectiveness (AFUE) study to determine how next generation airtankers integrate with other firefighting resources and improve overall response effectiveness. The data collection effort is ongoing and will be implemented on new airtankers as they become operational.

The Forest Service continues to improve and enhance predictive capabilities and decision support tools to make the best decisions on every wildfire event. In recognition of the extreme risk that wildland fire operations present, the agency is committed to reducing unnecessary exposure and risk for firefighters and others. The Life First initiative, a cornerstone of this safety commitment, focuses on targeted safety conversations with Forest Service employees, partners, and collaborators. The interactive sessions encourage and facilitate agreements among leaders and participants around what each can do, and will do, to eliminate unnecessary exposure and risk during fire seasons.

The Forest Service strives to minimize impacts of wildfire to life and property in decisions, to ensure the highest level of safety for our firefighters, and to restore wildfire to landscapes as a natural and beneficial change agent. In FY 2016, the agency used tools within the Wildland Fire Decision Support System to provide fire managers with the real-time ability to determine the likelihood that a wildfire will affect valuable resources. By focusing on risk, the intersection of threat (fire spread), and values at risk of loss, fire managers can employ suppression resources in the right places.

The Forest Service has also established a new multi-dimensional wildfire review process. This process examines significant fires as they are burning to identify cost and risk drivers and to establish baseline data regarding essential elements of response. The process helps review studies the impacts of decisions, investigate significant fires, and ensure continued learning. The reviews support the Life First initiative by helping the agency learn and understand how to eliminate unnecessary exposure and make better risk-informed decisions.

Safe, aggressive initial attack response is often the best suppression strategy to keep unwanted wildfires small and costs down. The Forest Service evaluates initial attack success, which depends on several factors including weather, location of the wildfire, values at risk, and management objectives. The agency's initial attack success rate – the percent of fires that were suppressed before they reached 300 acres in size – was 96.9 percent in FY 2016.

Smokejumper Training



Members of the McCall Smokejumpers travel in a Sherpa aircraft to a training jump over the Payette National Forest, Idaho. Photo Credit: Kari Greer, Forest Service

Suppression

Budget Line Item	Suppression				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Suppression					
Annual Appropriations	\$811,000	\$809,459	\$1,056,818	\$247,359	31%
Suppression Total	811,000	809,459	1,056,818	247,359	31%
Suppression Cap Adjustment	0	0	0	0	0%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	2,926	3,100	3,040	-60	-2%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	2,926	3,100	3,040	-60	-2%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Suppression			
Percent of fires not contained in initial attack that exceed a Stratified Cost Index (SCI)	28.3%	24.0%	24.0%
Three-year average percent of fires not contained in initial attack that exceed a Stratified Cost Index (SCI)	28.4%	26.0%	26.0%

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$1,056,818,000 for the Suppression program, an increase of \$247,359,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$1,565,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$4,473,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of 60 staff years (\$809,459,000 and 3,100 staff years available in 2017).

In recent USDA Forest Service budget justifications, the 10-year average of Suppression expenditures has been used in combination with the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act account to fully fund the 10-year average. Specifically, Suppression was requested at 70 percent of the 10-year average and the FLAME request was funded at approximately 30 percent of the 10-year average; together, fully funding the 10-year average. There are inefficiencies in operating between two accounts for one purpose; therefore, the FY 2018 President's Budget proposes to fully fund the 10-year average for Suppression, currently calculated at \$1.057 billion (see Table 1), in the base program and not request funding in the FLAME account to maximize operational and administrative efficiencies.

Table 1 – Forest Service Suppression Obligations FY 2007-FY 2016*
(dollars in thousands)

Fiscal Year	Net Nominal Suppression Obligations	GDP Inflator [2009=1.00]	GDP Deflator [2016=1.00]	Adjusted Obligations [2016=1.00]	Rolling 10-year Average
2007	941,381	0.9642	0.8550	1,101,011	
2008	1,001,083	0.9970	0.8841	1,132,319	
2009	523,383	1.0000	0.8868	590,218	
2010	412,323	1.0151	0.9002	458,060	
2011	873,442	1.0371	0.9197	949,745	
2012	1,243,740	1.0592	0.9393	1,324,174	
2013	1,140,116	1.0748	0.9531	1,196,231	
2014	964,339	1.0904	0.9669	997,327	
2015	1,443,369	1.1058	0.9806	1,471,954	
2016	1,347,136	1.1277	1.00	1,347,136	\$1,056,818

*The 10-year average has been rebaselined for FY 2018. Per the Preparedness Program Justification of Increases and Decreases, Base 8 expenditures are to be accounted for in Preparedness and not in Suppression. Based on this Change, and adherence to established business rules, the Base 8 expenditures over the past 10 years were removed from the 10-year average calculation. This resulted in a decrease of the 10-year average from FY 2017 to FY 2018 of \$225,000,000.

Program Overview

The Suppression program is the primary funding source for wildfire extended attack suppression response and maintains our strong emergency response role of working with other Federal agencies, State, Tribal, and local government partners to protect life and property. The Suppression program also helps restore and maintain resilient landscapes by managing naturally ignited, unplanned wildfires on National Forest System (NFS) lands, and helps to accomplish resource management, ecological restoration, and fuels reduction goals.

The program funds firefighters and equipment in direct support of wildfire incidents, aviation asset operations, incident support functions, and wildfire management administration. It provides resources in an appropriate, risk informed, and effective manner to respond to wildland fires that are on or threatening NFS lands or other Federal and non-Federal lands under fire protection agreements. The Forest Service provides Suppression resources to the Department of the Interior incidents on a reciprocal, non-reimbursement basis. The Suppression program also funds personnel and resources for:

- Use of wildland fire to improve forest condition - Management of naturally ignited, unplanned wildland fires on NFS lands to accomplish resource management, ecological restoration, and fuels reduction goals consistent with the revised guidance for the implementation of the Federal wildland fire policy and land management plan direction. This is referred to as Attainment of Resource Benefits.
- Burned Area Emergency Response - Post-fire actions on NFS lands to prevent or minimize erosion and loss of soil productivity, deterioration of water quality and downstream damage, changes to ecosystem function, establishment of non-native invasive species, and degradation of cultural and natural resources.
- Severity - Increasing readiness and response capability when predicted or burning conditions are

extraordinary or are judged imminent by the Incident Commander.

- Non-fire incident response - Supports the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency through Forest Service participation in the National Response Framework and other activities authorized by the Stafford Act.

All fires are managed using risk management protocols that emphasize firefighter and public safety, and determine the most effective response. Forest Service managers use the Wildland Fire Decision Support System to assess risk and tactical implementation strategies on wildland fires. This system provides access to data and decision support tools and documents to inform fire-management decisions and long-term operational plans.

Past Performance

During the FY 2016 fire season, the Forest Service experienced above average wildfire activity in California, while the remainder of the country experienced average or below average activity. Location is the most important variable contributing to significance, severity, and cost of any wildfire. It is important to look beyond national statistics and focus on regional and local data to understand the FY 2016 fire season. Wildfires occurring in California present unique challenges given the population and infrastructure density. In California, every fire inevitably affects large population centers and requires extensive firefighting resources to manage, translating to disproportionately high suppression costs compared to other areas of the country.

In FY 2016, there were four wildfires in California each costing in excess of \$25 million, with one costing over \$80 million. The Pioneer fire in Idaho, at nearly \$70 million, was the only fire in this cost range outside of California during FY 2016. The severe drought in California magnified the challenges presented by high fuel loads and dry conditions, so every wildfire had the potential to become a catastrophic event. Managing wildfires under extreme conditions requires substantial firefighting resources and full coordination amongst the entire wildland fire community.

Nearly 6 million acres burned across the agency all jurisdictions and deployed over 21,000 firefighters to support response operations in FY 2016. Although, the Forest Service did not reach the most critical circumstances described as Preparedness Level 5 nationally this year, significant fire activity occurred throughout the country. The agency managed resources to achieve ecological or risk benefit on over 932,000 acres. These beneficial fires moved ecosystems toward specific desired conditions for forests and grasslands based on land management objectives identified in Land and Resource Management Plans or other planning documents. Suppression expenditures for the Forest Service totaled slightly more than \$1.6 billion.

The agency uses the Stratified Cost Index (SCI) to estimate suppression costs for each fire using several factors. Nationally, the SCI provides data to evaluate the entire fire season, and trends to compare year-to-year. The percentage of incidents not contained in initial attack that exceeded the SCI in FY 2016 was 28.3 percent—an increase from 24.8 percent in FY 2015.

The agency continues to refine management of large and complex wildfires, focusing on improving risk management protocols and striving for management efficiency. The agency makes wildfire management decisions with the support of a robust system of checks and balances, and in collaboration with affected partners. The final costs of any wildfire are an outcome of these decisions, and are commensurate with identified values at risk and the safety of both the public and agency employees.

Rough Fire, California, 2015



An engine crew member uses a hose to suppress fire on the Rough Fire, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests. Photo Credit: Kari Green, Forest Service

The agency continually strives to improve understanding of the factors affecting fire behavior, and how to leverage response assets. In partnership with Forest Service researchers, Fire and Aviation Management specialists are developing tools to identify where to leverage naturally occurring fires under the right conditions.

National Fire Plan Research and Development

Budget Line Item	Research and Development				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Research and Development Annual Appropriations	\$19,795	\$19,757	\$17,600	-\$2,157	-11%
Research and Development Total	19,795	19,757	17,600	-2,157	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	99	99	93	-6	-6%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	99	99	93	-6	-6%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Research and Development			
Customer satisfaction index score for R&D	76	76	77

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$17,600,000 for the National Fire Plan Research and Development (R&D) program, a decrease of \$2,157,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$48,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$136,000 for the 2018 pay increase), and a decrease of six staff years (\$19,757,000 and 99 staff years available in 2017).

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$17,600,000 to provide information and tools managers use to reduce the negative impacts and to enhance the beneficial effects of fire and fire management for society and the environment. At the proposed funding level, the social fire science portfolio will be eliminated.

Program Overview

The National Fire Plan (NFP) Research and Development (R&D) program conducts research to support management of fire-affected landscapes to sustain forest health, reduce the risk of damaging wildland fires, and ensure public and firefighter safety. The NFP program supports wildland fire management and research activities for the benefit of land managers and policy makers. This research provides the foundation for the development and delivery of information, products, and tools to respond to fires safely and effectively, help communities and homeowners mitigate fire risk, restore resilient landscapes, and support integrated, risk-based management.

This program is managed under a strategic plan outlining five focus areas: (1) core fire science, (2) ecological and environmental fire science, (3) social fire science, (4) integrated fire and fuels management research, and (5) science application. The program's goal is to provide knowledge and tools managers can use to reduce the negative impacts of wildfire and enhance the beneficial effects of fire and fire management. These investments help fire managers, policy makers, and citizens make scientifically sound wildfire and fuels management decisions and invest fuel and fire funding. These decisions help to minimize the negative social, economic, and ecological impacts of fire and avoid environmental damage.

The value of the NFP R&D program includes protection of timber and other natural resources; maintenance of recreation opportunities; protection of communities and wildlife in the wildland-urban interface; and creation of resilient landscapes. The findings of this research program help to guide fire suppression efforts, demonstrate and

account for the effectiveness of Hazardous Fuels treatments, inform the allocation of funding for fuels management and restoration, and identify opportunities to use biomass from forest thinning treatments.

Past Performance

Forest Service researchers evaluated the ability to restore wildfire at landscape scales within two wilderness areas in the southwestern U.S. and determine how that information could be related elsewhere. This study summarizes the effects of fire management practices on key resources, documents common challenges in implementing these practices, and provides lessons for how to address them. The research demonstrated that naturally ignited wildfires can be used to reduce fuels and restore open forest structure at large landscape levels. Restoring wildfire at landscape levels requires patience and coordination as well as public communication and education.

The Prescribed Fire Combustion and Atmospheric Dynamics Research Experiment (RxCADRE) — is helping improve modelled predictions of how wildland fires spread and smoke behavior. These modelled predictions are designed to support decision-making on fighting wildland fires and on reducing the air quality and soil impacts of prescribed burns. An updated edition of *The Guide to Prescribed Fire in Southern Ecosystems*, which was published in 2016, is designed to help resource managers' plan and execute prescribed burns in southern forests and grasslands. This publication reviews the history and ecology of fire; reasons for using prescribed fire in the South; weather and fuel conditions that are key to controlling fire; meeting burn objectives; and techniques for firing and evaluating burns. It also reviews research aimed at increasing the precision of smoke management, which is particularly important as human populations expand into areas where prescribed burning is needed.

Smoke from Wildfires near Los Angeles, June 2016



The smoke from wildfires burning in Angeles National Forest fills the sky behind the Los Angeles skyline on June 20, 2016. The Erskine fire was estimated to be about 70 square miles and at the time of this reporting was the state's largest wildfire out of the nine ongoing wildfires. The fire at the time of this reporting was said to have claimed the lives of two people and had destroyed 200 structures. About 2,000 firefighters were assigned to fight the fire, however, officials estimated that it was only 45 percent contained at the time of this report.

Joint Fire Science Program

Budget Line Item	Joint Fire Science Program				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Joint Fire Science Program Annual Appropriations	\$6,914	\$6,901	0	-\$6,901	-100%
Joint Fire Science Program Total	6,914	6,901	0	-6,901	-100%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	8	8	0	-8	-100%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	8	8	0	-8	-100%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the Joint Fire Science Program, a decrease of \$6,901,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR.

At the FY 2018 budget request level, Forest Service participation in the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) would be eliminated. The JFSP would focus on completing existing projects and standing down science exchange with managers. New research in the Smoke Management and in the Fuels Treatment lines-of-work would be eliminated, as would new research in the Emerging Management Needs initiative. General fire research in the agency would be conducted through the National Fire Plan and the Forest and Rangeland Research appropriations.

Program Overview

The JFSP is an interagency fire research and development partnership between the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture. The JFSP contributes to sound decision-making and project implementation through research tailored to the needs of fire and vegetation managers, communities, and wildfire responders.

Past Performance

The JFSP initiated the Fire and Smoke Model Evaluation Experiment (FASMEE), which is a multidisciplinary, multiagency project to improve wildland fire behavior and smoke models. Participants in the FASMEE include the Department of the Interior, Forest Service, Department of Defense, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and leaders in the academic community. The main focus of FASMEE is to work with the community that studies fire behavior and smoke modelers to develop measurement-based databases from experimental burns. This provides a consistent and comprehensive foundation for progressing and transitioning existing and new models into operational use.

The JFSP continues to enhance collaboration between practitioners and scientists through the nationwide Fire Science Exchange Network. Membership of the 15 Fire Science Exchanges continues to expand, particularly in the State, local, Tribal, and non-governmental sectors. The Exchanges last year conducted over 3,000 active learning engagements including webinars, seminars, workshops, and field trips.

**Forest Service Research and Development
Science Fire Risk Assessment**

Forest Service R&D scientists convene a multidisciplinary, multiagency team to improve wildland fire behavior and smoke models

Highlights include focus on the implementation of prescribed fire, forest disturbance adaptation, and resilient communities.

In FY 2016, scientists used existing databases and survey data that characterize the role of socioeconomic factors, biophysical conditions, and sociocultural differences to determine the public's confidence in and response to wildfire risk mitigation activities. This research allows an assessment of the public's perceptions related to fuel treatments and the wildland-urban interface (WUI) within a national, comparative framework. Data developed by this research project will continue to help land and fire managers to better understand public perceptions of issues surrounding the full range of values associated with the WUI

State Fire Assistance

Budget Line Item	State Fire Assistance				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
State Fire Assistance					
Annual Appropriations	\$78,000	\$77,852	\$69,400	-\$8,452	-11%
State Fire Assistance Total	78,000	77,852	69,400	-8,452	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	57	56	44	-12	-21%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	57	56	44	-12	-21%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
State Fire Assistance			
Communities assisted (number)	13,814	12,500	11,100

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$69,400,000 for the State Fire Assistance program, a decrease of \$8,452,000 from FY 2017 Annualized CR (including \$23,000 for annualization of the 2017 pay increase and \$65,000 for the 2018 pay increase) and a decrease in 12 staff years (\$77,852,000 and 56 staff years available in 2017).

In FY 2018, the budget request proposes \$69,400,000 to assist State and local response agencies in providing wildland fire response.

Program Overview

The State Fire Assistance (SFA) program provides financial assistance through partnership agreements with State Foresters for the prevention, mitigation, control, and suppression of wildfires on non-Federal lands. This funding helps State and local agencies to implement pre-fire prevention and mitigation programs and to develop and maintain an effective wildfire suppression capability as described in a State's Forest Action Plan. This program emphasizes pre-fire planning in the wildland-urban-interface (WUI) and hazardous fuels mitigation near communities at risk of catastrophic wildfire. Training funded by SFA provides effective and safer initial response to wildfire, as the first responders on almost 75 percent of wildfires are local fire departments or State agencies. Additionally, the SFA program improves capacity to assist other Federal, State, and local agencies in aiding communities affected by non-fire emergencies such as hurricanes and floods.

State Foresters direct a portion of SFA funds toward helping communities become fire-adapted. This is done by conducting hazardous fuel mitigation projects, planning and preparing for wildfire, creating defensible community space, and obtaining equipment to respond to and mitigate fire. This program maximizes cross-jurisdictional partnerships to help homeowners and communities in fire-prone areas take responsibility for fire protection. Helping communities become more fire-adapted reduces the risk and cost of large wildfires. More than 46 million homes in the United States, representing 40 percent of the Nation's housing units, are located in fire-prone WUI areas. This number is expected to increase. Creating more fire-adapted communities reduces suppression and structural protection costs without compromising firefighter or civilian safety.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, the SFA program focused on mitigating the risk of wildland fire in communities taking an active role in preparing and planning for wildland fire. In the West, 84 percent of the WUI is still undeveloped; however, since 1990, 60 percent of new homes nationwide in the U.S. were built in the WUI²¹.

The agency works proactively with communities to help them become more fire adapted and resilient in order to lessen the impacts of wildland fire. This proactive approach is integral to reducing suppression costs and to ultimately restoring wildlands to functionality and fire-resiliency. In FY 2016, the SFA program provided over \$3 million of funding to support 4,106 risk assessments and fire management planning projects in 3,235 communities.

Another component of mitigating risk, especially in the WUI, is prioritizing and treating hazardous fuels at the landscape scale. For example, SFA funds have been used to help implement fuels reduction projects at Santa Fe Ranch, a 17,000 acre subdivision in Colorado. More than 1,700 acres of fuel-breaks have been developed since 2006, providing improved access for fire suppression efforts and improved egress for residents²². The SFA program provides Federal assistance in treating fuels on State and private lands, which make up most of the WUI. In FY 2016, SFA provided over \$11 million for hazardous fuels treatments in the WUI, directly paying for 95,506 acres of hazardous fuels treatment and leveraging treatment of another 50,812 acres with in-kind partner support. These projects lowered fire risk in 902 communities. In addition, over 6,500 SFA prevention and education programs conducted in FY 2016 benefitted 7,751 communities.

In FY 2016, SFA focused on Preparedness for State and local firefighting resources to help them respond effectively to all hazard events and wildland fire situations, including those on Federal lands. Close to 65 million acres of WUI are adjacent to or near National Forest System lands, and local firefighters are often the first on the scene of a wildland fire. In FY 2016, the SFA program supported nearly \$11 million in Preparedness activities and almost \$9 million in suppression operations. In addition, SFA funded the training of 31,588 firefighters and invested nearly \$6 million in the purchase, maintenance, and rehabilitation of needed firefighting equipment for state agencies. In total, SFA assisted 13,814 communities in FY 2016.

Community assistance through the SFA contributes to the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy (Cohesive Strategy), a collaboration among all levels of government and non-government organizations to seek all-lands solutions to wildland fire management. The Fire Adapted Communities Network (FAC Net), which the Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the Watershed Research and Training Center jointly support and manage, is one of the best examples of the Cohesive Strategy at work. Members of the FAC Net use a tested learning-network approach to accelerate their shared vision of the entire Nation adapted community concepts. Several states, including California, Nevada, and Washington, support independent statewide networks modeled after the FAC Net. The FAC Net workshop participants agreed that the exchanges were worthwhile and reported a desire to continue sharing knowledge and conversation in the future.

In 2015, the Colorado State Forest Service, the Forest Service, TNC, and Denver Water convened Federal, State, local, and non-profit partners to engage in a five-year collaborative to accelerate strategic landscape scale forest treatments in the three sub-basins of the Upper South Platte watershed. The watershed is the source of more than 80 percent of the drinking water for the Denver metropolitan area. With financial support from the SFA program, the Upper South Platte Partnership will facilitate silvicultural treatments to reduce wildfire risk and severity, while ensuring a clean and abundant water supply for Denver's residents. The five year collaborative effort continued through FY 2016 with three of the 11 planned projects being completed for a total of 150 acres treated.

²² Council of Western State Foresters. *State Fire Assistance – Building National Response to Wildfire*. 2014. <http://www.westernforesters.org/sites/default/files/state-fire-assistance-building-the-national-response-to-wildfire.pdf>

Volunteer Fire Assistance

Budget Line Item	Volunteer Fire Assistance				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualize President's d CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
Volunteer Fire Assistance					
Annual Appropriations	\$13,000	\$12,975	\$11,600	-\$1,375	-11%
Volunteer Fire Assistance Total	13,000	12,975	11,600	-1,375	-11%
Annual Appropriations FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%

Performance Measure

	Accomplishment and Targets (1)		
	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Target	FY 2018 Target
Volunteer Fire Assistance			
Volunteer fire departments assisted (number)	14,228	8,500	7,650

(1) The Past Performance narrative below provides detailed information on aspects of program management, strategies, and/or improvements in relation to the accomplishments associated with the performance measures.

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes \$11,600,000 for the Volunteer Fire Assistance program, a decrease of \$1,375,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR.

The FY 2018 the budget request proposes \$11,600,000 to provide financial assistance to communities of 10,000 or fewer residents to strengthen and maintain fire suppression capacity.

Program Overview

The Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) program provides technical and financial assistance to qualifying local volunteer fire departments that protect communities with populations of 10,000 or fewer. The VFA program, delivered through the State Foresters, supports local fire preparedness and suppression efforts to protect State and private forestlands threatened by wildfire. The VFA provides grants for equipment, training, and technical assistance in organizing or expanding volunteer fire departments where little or no fire protection is available. There are over 26,000 rural and predominantly volunteer fire departments nationwide. More than 1.5 billion acres in the U.S. are in private ownership or are State or locally owned, and State and local entities are responsible for basic fire protection and firefighting on those lands. Fire-caused loss of human lives, natural resources, crops, homes, facilities, and other rural businesses can displace people, eliminate jobs, and further depress rural communities. The VFA program helps to enhance stability in rural areas by reducing these losses.

Rural fire departments are the first line of defense against fires and other emergencies in rural areas, and they provide nearly 80 percent of initial attack on all wildland fires in the U.S. Yet these departments often lack the financial and technical resources to obtain the equipment and training necessary to ensure safe and effective wildfire response. In recent years, fewer citizens are available and willing to volunteer as fire fighters, and small rural communities often lack the resources to properly equip and train these volunteer departments. Without the cooperation of rural fire departments, the agency would be unable to provide the level of fire response needed to keep fires near communities small.

Volunteer fire departments also play a key role in educating constituents about fire adaptation and the need for mitigation, and they help meet expanded fire protection needs within the wildland-urban-interface in the context of the Cohesive Strategy. Through this education and outreach, local communities are better prepared to face the challenges of longer and more severe fire seasons.

Recipients match grants dollar-for-dollar to maximize the value of the Federal investment. Program funding helps Federal, State, and local agencies deliver a uniform and coordinated response to wildfire by training, equipping, and organizing volunteer fire departments. Through this program, the agency provides support that helps rural communities prepare for, mitigate, and respond to natural and human-caused fires to prevent the fires from spreading to lands managed by other jurisdictions. All of these initiatives combine to create more fire-adapted communities.

Past Performance

In FY 2016, we targeted VFA investments to state-identified areas of highest risk and greatest need. Over 14,000 communities used VFA funds to train almost 17,000 firefighters and expand or organize 170 fire departments. Communities also received \$8 million of VFA funds for the purchase, rehabilitation, and maintenance of equipment. The number of volunteer fire departments assisted fluctuates annually depending on the types and cost of individual projects States choose to implement.

New Holland, SC Volunteer Fire Department



The New Holland, SC Volunteer Fire Department received their first Volunteer Fire Assistance grant in 2016, enabling 10 firefighters to be issued new TechGen wildland fire gear (eight pictured above). A community of less than 3,000 people, the \$3,591 grant awarded to the Volunteer Fire Department is significant. The Secretary/Treasurer of the Volunteer Fire Department said “This grant means a lot to this department and goes a long way in aiding us to fulfill our mission and serve our community.” (Photo credit: R.C. Lee/New Holland Volunteer Fire Department)

FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund

Appropriation	FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				
	(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes	Percent of Program Changes
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund					
Annual Appropriations	\$823,000	\$821,436	0	-\$821,436	-100%
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund Total	823,000	821,436	0	-\$821,436	-100%
Annual Appropriation FTEs	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0	0%
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund					
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund	823,000	821,436	0	-\$821,436	-100%

Justification of Increases and Decreases

The FY 2018 President's Budget does not propose funding for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund, a decrease of \$821,436,000 from the FY 2017 Annualized CR.

Program Overview

The FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund is a separate Treasury account and distinct appropriation providing funds to cover fires escaping initial attack (response) that are sufficiently large and complex, or when overall fire activity is at such high levels that the resources appropriated to the Suppression account are about to be completely obligated. It is a reserve fund intended to mitigate the impacts of increasing fire borrowing to support extreme wildfire suppression costs and the resulting adverse effects on other agency programs. As a practical matter, these funds are not a reserve but part of base program as suppression costs have exceeded the base appropriation in all but two years since the 2009 enactment of the FLAME Act. There are inefficiencies in operating between two accounts for one purpose; therefore, the FY 2018 President's Budget proposes to fully fund the 10-year average for Suppression, currently calculated at \$1.057 billion and not request funding in the account to maximize operational and administrative efficiencies.

Past Performance

During the 2016 fire season, the agency experienced above average wildfire activity in California, while the remainder of the country experienced average or below average activity. The most significant fire activity occurred in August, during which there were several times when approximately 21,000 firefighters were supporting wildfire incidents. Nationally, the agency reached a preparedness level of four for 14 days, meaning that three or more geographic areas required extensive resources, and that competition existed between geographic areas for resources. Maintaining this high level of activity required significant financial resources, and therefore the Secretary of Agriculture issued a declaration in August that \$675.2 million of funds in the FLAME account needed to be transferred due to the imminent exhaustion of funds within the Suppression account.

The Forest Service will issue an annual report that describes the obligations and expenditures of amounts transferred from the FLAME account in FY 2017, as required by the FLAME Act.

Permanent Appropriations

	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Brush Disposal				
New Budget Authority	\$7,695	\$8,000	\$8,000	0
Program Level	11,801	20,000	16,000	-\$4,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	67	67	67	0
Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Timber Salvage Sales				
New Budget Authority	35,919	26,000	29,000	3,000
Program Level	26,994	45,000	30,000	-15,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	218	218	218	0
Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration				
New Budget Authority	5,151	6,000	6,000	0
Program Level	6,115	14,000	10,000	-4,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	32	32	32	0
Forest Botanical Products				
New Budget Authority	1,570	1,000	1,000	0
Program Level	1,602	1,602	1,602	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	18	18	18	0
Stewardship Contracting				
New Budget Authority	15,746	14,000	14,000	0
Program Level	12,511	13,000	13,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Recreation Fees, Forest Service				
New Budget Authority	86,303	68,795	69,795	1,000
Program Level	70,408	70,408	70,408	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	566	566	566	0
Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction				
New Budget Authority	0	2,000	2,000	0
Program Level	532	532	532	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service Quarters				
New Budget Authority	9,225	9,000	10,000	1,000
Program Level	5,127	5,127	5,127	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	29	29	29	0
Roads and Trails for States				
New Budget Authority	0	16,000	16,000	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Land Between the Lakes Management				
New Budget Authority	4,655	5,000	5,000	0
Program Level	4,254	4,254	4,254	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	11	11	11	0
Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Rental Fee				
New Budget Authority	755	1,000	1,000	0
Program Level	760	760	760	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Restoration				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Quinault Special Management Area				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	2	2	2	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Valles Caldera				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	11	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Restoration of Forest Lands & Improvements				
New Budget Authority	10,607	20,000	11,000	-9,000
Program Level	67,275	67,275	67,275	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	154	154	154	0
Commercial Filming and Still Photography Land Use Fee Retention				
New Budget Authority	672	671	671	0
Program Level	517	517	517	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	6	6	6	0
Organizational Camps Programs				
New Budget Authority	683	682	682	0
Program Level	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	6	6	6	0
Cost Recovery (Administration of Rights-of-Way)				
New Budget Authority	8,386	767	767	0
Program Level	5,122	5,122	5,122	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	41	41	41	0
Licensee Program Smokey Bear				
New Budget Authority	99	98	98	0
Program Level	61	61	61	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Licensee Program Woodsy Owl				
New Budget Authority	7	7	7	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Forest Service Go Green Program (Conservation)				
New Budget Authority	34	33	33	0
Program Level	19	19	19	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Conveyance of Administrative Sites				
New Budget Authority	16,901	8,000	1,000	-7,000
Program Level	11,308	7,500	7,500	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	3	3	3	0
Site-Specific Lands Acts				
New Budget Authority	289	1,000	1,000	0
Program Level	376	500	500	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1	1	1	0
Payment to States				
New Budget Authority	362,391	77,150	77,150	0
Program Level	292,105	91,573	91,573	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	42	42	42	0
Permanent Funds New Budget Authority	\$567,087	\$266,203	\$255,203	-11,000
Permanent Funds Program Level	\$517,900	\$348,252	\$325,252	-23,000
Permanent Funds Full Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1,194	1,194	1,194	0

Permanent Appropriations

Brush Disposal

Budget Line Item	Brush Disposal			
(dollars in thousands)				
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Brush Disposal				
New Budget Authority	\$7,695	\$8,000	\$8,000	0
Program Level	11,801	20,000	16,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	67	67	67	0

Program Overview

This program provides for the disposal of unmerchantable brush and other debris resulting from timber harvest operations. Timber harvest activities create logging slash which, when left untreated, can increase the risk of fire, impair reforestation, and contribute to the buildup of insect populations. Logging slash can be mechanically treated by scattering, chipping, or crushing it down with logging equipment and allowed to decay. The treatment selected depends upon the amount of debris generated, as well as the relative fire hazard created. Slash can also be subjected to broadcast burning or collected into piles and burned during non-hazardous weather conditions.

Timber sale operators can perform the required work, or they can request that the agency complete this work by depositing funds to cover these costs. Brush Disposal funding comes from deposits required of timber purchasers if they select the second option, and it is used only on timber sale areas.

Authorities

The Brush Disposal Act of August 11, 1916, as amended (16 U.S.C. 490). This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to require purchasers of national forest timber to deposit the estimated cost to dispose of brush and other debris resulting from their cutting operations.

Hardwood Technology Transfer & Applied Research

Budget Line Item	Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research fund allows for funds to be collected from leasing the Forest Service Wood Education and Resource Center's wood shop and rough mill under a special use permit. The fund is used to pay for utilities, salaries, repairs and maintenance expenses. While the majority of the funds are generated from lessee rent, a portion of the funds may be derived from machine/timeshare rentals for start-up wood businesses and workshop fees.

Authorities

P.L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(3) [Title III, §332], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-197. Title 16 – Conservation; Chapter 36 - Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning, Subchapter II – Research; Sec. 1650 - Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research. This act provides authority for the Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC) to conduct technology transfer and development, training, dissemination of information, and applied research in the management, processing, and utilization of the hardwood forest resource.

The Act authorizes the generation of revenue and funds to be deposited into a special fund in the U.S. Treasury, known as the Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research fund, which shall be available until expended, without further appropriation, in furtherance of the purposes stated in the Act including upkeep, management, and operation of the WERC, and the payment of salaries and expenses.

Timber Salvage Sales

Budget Line Item	Timber Salvage Sales			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Timber Salvage Sales				
New Budget Authority	\$35,919	\$26,000	\$29,000	\$3,000
Program Level	26,994	45,000	30,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	218	218	218	0

Program Overview

Salvage sales permit the timely removal of fire or insect damaged and diseased trees to aid in maintaining healthy and resilient forest stands and ensuring community safety. The Timber Salvage Sale program collects revenues from the sale of timber from dead and dying trees to prepare and administer future salvage timber sales, including the provision of engineering support. These revenues are deposited into the Timber Salvage Sale fund and are available to immediately respond to timber salvage opportunities. The removal of fire-damaged, diseased and insect-infested timber through timber sale contracts is a valuable tool to reduce the potential for catastrophic wildland fires and other hazards associated with dead or dying trees. Timely salvage sales also help maximize the recovery of timber product value that would otherwise be lost. Through the collection of Knutson-Vandenberg Act funds, timber salvage sales can also provide for restoration of an affected area.

Authorities

The National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a (h)). This act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to require purchasers of salvage timber to make monetary deposits in a designated Treasury fund to cover the costs for sale preparation and administration, and the engineering design and administration of any needed roads necessary for the harvesting of salvage timber. Funds are available until expended.

Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration

Budget Line Item	Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration				
New Budget Authority	\$5,151	\$6,000	\$6,000	0
Program Level	6,115	14,000	10,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	32	32	32	0

Program Overview

The Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration fund contributes to many land and resource management objectives, such as improving forest health, restoring wildlife habitat, and providing forest products to meet local and national needs. In addition, the fund helps to address health and safety issues in recreation facilities and on system trails, benefiting the recreating public by addressing maintenance issues that may cause harm or otherwise detract from the outdoor experience. These activities are aligned with the agency's integrated watershed improvement goals, and ensure forest and grasslands are conserved, restored, and made more resilient.

The following programs are included in the fund:

Timber Sale Pipeline Sale Preparation - Seventy-five percent of the Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration funds are used for the preparation of future non-salvage timber sales to restore the timber sales pipeline volume. This activity provides for the National Environmental Policy Act analysis to meet long-term forest health and desired condition objectives, determination of the volume and value of the trees to be removed, and timber sale layout and design necessary for future timber sales. Expenditures may also include the necessary planning and design for the associated timber roads.

Recreation Backlog - Twenty-five percent of the Timber Sales Pipeline Restoration funds are expended on backlog recreation facility projects and system trails. This activity includes maintenance and improvement of recreation sites, system trails, bridges, and trailheads.

Authorities

Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-134, Sec. 101 (c), [title III Sec. 327], April 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-206 and 207). The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to collect and deposit revenues from a specific set of timber sales (i.e., sales released under P.L. 104-19, [title II, Sec. 2001(k)], July 27, 1995) for the purpose of preparing timber sales and addressing the backlog of recreation projects. Revenues from the sale of timber prepared using these funds are also deposited into this fund and are available for preparation of additional timber sales and recreation backlog projects.

Forest Botanical Products

Budget Line Item	Forest Botanical Products			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Forest Botanical Products				
New Budget Authority	\$1,570	\$1,000	\$1,000	0
Program Level	1,602	1,602	1,602	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	18	18	18	0

Program Overview

This authority provides a mechanism for charging and collecting fees from persons who harvest forest botanical products. The term “forest botanical products” refers to any naturally occurring mushrooms, fungi, flowers, seeds, roots, bark, leaves, and other vegetation (or portion thereof) that grow on National Forest System lands. Fees collected are available to cover the costs associated with granting, modifying, or administering the permits for harvesting, including the costs for environmental analyses. Work activities include inventory, analysis, sustainability determination for harvest levels, permit issuance and administration, and monitoring to facilitate the sale and harvest of forest botanical products. The objectives of this program are to maintain, enhance, or restore forest ecosystems to desired conditions, and to provide for the sale and harvest of forest botanical products in a sustainable manner that contributes to meeting the Nation’s demand for these goods and services.

Authorities

Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (16 U.S.C. 528 note) (P.L. 106-113, div. B, Sec. 1000(a)(3), [Appendix C, title III, Sec. 339], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-199, as amended by P.L. 108-108, [title III, Sec. 335], Nov. 10, 2003, 117 Stat. 1312, and P.L. 111-88, [title IV, Sec. 420], Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2960). This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to charge and collect fees from persons who harvest forest botanical products to cover at least a portion of the fair market value for the harvest of forest botanical products and a portion of the costs the agency incurs in administering the pilot program. Funds collected are deposited in a special fund in the Treasury.

Extension of Forest Botanical Products Authorities; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76). This act extends until September 30, 2019, the original authorization enacted through Section 339(h)(1) of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (enacted into law by section 1000(a)(3) of Public Law 106-113; 16 U.S.C. 528 note). This authority will expire on September 30, 2019, unless it is reauthorized by Congress. However, all funds collected on or prior to September 30, 2019, will remain available for expenditure through September 30, 2020.

Stewardship Contracting

Budget Line Item	Stewardship Contracting			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Stewardship Contracting				
New Budget Authority	\$15,746	\$14,000	\$14,000	0
Program Level	12,511	13,000	13,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

Stewardship Contracting permits the Forest Service to apply the value of timber or other forest products from stewardship contracts as an offset against the costs to accomplish additional land and resource management objectives. If the offset value exceeds the value of the resource improvement treatments, those receipts are retained and deposited in the Stewardship Contracting fund and are available until expended for other authorized stewardship projects. Stewardship contracting funds may be used for:

- road and trail maintenance or decommissioning to restore or maintain water quality;
- work to improve soil productivity, or other resource values;
- prescribed fires to improve the composition, structure, condition, and health of forest stands or to improve wildlife habitat;
- removal of vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forests, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives;
- restoration and maintenance of watersheds;
- restoration and maintenance of wildlife and fish habitat; and
- control of noxious and invasive weeds, and re-establishment of native plant species.

Authorities

Department of the Interior and Related Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 U.S.C. 2104 note) (P.L. 105-277, div. A, Sec. 101(e), [title III, Sec. 347], Oct. 21, 1998, Stat. 2681-231, amended by the Department of the Interior and Related Appropriations Act, 2003, P.L. 108-7, div. F, [title III, Sec. 323], Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 275). Section 323 of P.L. 108-7 supersedes the original authority granted to the Forest Service in section 347 of P.L. 105-277. The stewardship contracting authority authorizes the Forest Service, via agreement or contract, to enter into stewardship projects to perform services to achieve land management goals and to meet local and rural community needs. This authority was made permanent, pursuant to P.L. 113-79, the Agricultural Act of 2014.

Recreation Fees, Forest Service

Budget Line Item	Recreation Fees, Forest Service			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Recreation Fees, Forest Service				
New Budget Authority	\$86,303	\$68,795	\$69,795	\$1,000
Program Level	70,408	70,408	70,408	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	566	566	566	0

Program Overview

When recreation fees are collected by the Forest Service, 80 to 95 percent of the fees collected are deposited in the Recreation Fees, Forest Service fund, and are spent on maintaining and improving the area, site, or projects that directly relate to visitor enjoyment, access, and health and safety. Work activities include: annual operation and maintenance, interpretation, signage, wildlife habitat restoration, resource preservation, and law enforcement. The agency executes a large amount of work in this program through contracts.

There are four programs within the Recreation Fees, Forest Service fund:

Recreation Fees, Forest Service Site Specific - We collect approximately \$50 million annually to maintain and improve facilities and services for which the fees are collected. Five percent goes to the regional offices to support strategic program oversight, financial management, training, and grants to forests for improvements/special projects on the ground.

Recreation Fees, Forest Service Agency Specific - The Forest Service is the contracting agency for the National Recreation Reservation Service, part of Recreation.gov, an e-government initiative. The \$120 million interagency funded contract, supports reservations for all recreation facilities on public lands that allow reservations.

Recreation Fees, Forest Service Grey Towers National Historic Site Fees - Recreation fees are used for annual operations and maintenance of the historic mansion and 102 acre landscape; interpretive and education programs and projects that perpetuate the legacy of Gifford Pinchot for general public and youth; public programs that foster stewardship of natural resources; safety of the visitor and security of the resource; and support for the conference facility that provides conservation leadership development programs and enhances the dialogues taking place within the natural resource community.

Shasta-Trinity Marina Fees - Fees received from the marina project provide funding needed in the Shasta-Trinity National Recreation Area to meet critical health and safety standards; address portions of the maintenance backlog; provide for many noteworthy, innovative projects including high quality interpretive and environmental education programs; installation and maintenance of over 300 underwater obstacle markers and 100 safety-related floating directional signs; establishment and maintenance of the National Recreation Area Boating Safety Program; implementation and administration of the program's Marina Standards; maintaining a floating toilet program; and the construction of accessible facilities to provide greater access for persons with disabilities. The goal of these projects is to meet the National Recreation Area's intent, which is to showcase recreation opportunities in the agency.

Authorities

Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6806 and 6807) (P.L. 108-447, div. J, [title VIII, Sec. 807 and Sec. 808] Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3388). This act provides authority to implement a fee program for certain recreation sites on Federal lands. Fees collected from users of recreation facilities are used to pay for on-the-ground operation, maintenance, and improvements of recreation sites and services to maintain and enhance recreation

opportunities, visitor experiences, and related habitat. Funds are available until expended. The act directs the creation of Recreation Resource Advisory Committees to allow for public involvement in recreation fee programs. This authority was originally set to expire on December 8, 2014, but was extended through December 8, 2015, pursuant to P.L. 113-46, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014, through December 11, 2015, pursuant to P.L. 113-164, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, through September 30, 2016, pursuant to P.L. 113-483, Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, through September 30, 2017, pursuant to P.L. 114-53, Continuing Appropriations Act, 2016, and through September 30, 2018, pursuant to P.L. 114-223.

Timber Purchasing Election Road Construction

Budget Line Item	Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction				
New Budget Authority	0	\$2,000	\$2,000	0
Program Level	\$532	532	532	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction - The Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction program supports the construction and reconstruction of any permanent road or bridge as required under the terms and conditions of a timber sale contract. When a small business timber purchaser is awarded a contract, the purchaser may elect to pay the Forest Service to construct or reconstruct specified roads in the timber sale contract area to a standard necessary to harvest and remove timber and other forest products. The agency then uses the funds to contract for the required road work and administer the contract. This program benefits small timber contractors who might otherwise be unable to bid on Forest Service timber sales, as well as provides for appropriate road improvements preventing soil degradation, stream sedimentation, or other damages.

Purchaser Election Vegetative Treatment - The Purchaser Election Vegetative Treatment funds support the following activities to improve forest health: vegetative treatments in timber stands at high risk of fire due to insect, disease, or drought; road work in support of vegetative treatments to support forest health objectives; and maintenance of infrastructure for the processing of woody fiber in regions where it is critical to sustaining local economies and fulfilling forest health objectives.

Authorities

National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 472a(i)). The act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to use any receipts from the sale of timber for the construction of roads required under the timber sale contract.

Department of the Interior and Related Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 U.S.C. 535a (c)) (P.L. 105-277, div. A, Sec. 101(e), [title III, Sec. 329], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-231, 2681-292). This act authorizes small business timber purchasers to elect to pay the Forest Service to construct or reconstruct any permanent roads or bridges required by the timber sale. The timber purchaser must be classified as a small business operator, and the total estimated reconstruction and construction cost in the timber sale contract must exceed \$50,000.

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110-161, Sec. 6., div. F, [title IV, Sec. 423], Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2150). The Forest Service shall allocate to the regions of the Forest Service, \$15 million from the current balance in the “timber roads purchaser election fund”, to remain available until expended.

Operation & Management of Forest Service Quarters

Budget Line Item	Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service Quarters			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Operation and Maintenance of Forest Service Quarters				
New Budget Authority	\$9,225	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$1,000
Program Level	5,127	5,127	5,127	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	29	29	29	0

Program Overview

Forest Service Quarters Operation and Maintenance (5 U.S.C. 5911, Other Provisions). This act authorizes the collection of rental income from employees living in government owned or leased residences. Such rents and charges are deposited in a special Treasury fund and remain available for obligation for operation and maintenance of quarters until expended.

Authorities

Forest Service Quarters Operation and Maintenance (5 U.S.C. 5911, Other Provisions). This act authorizes the collection of rental income from employees living in government owned or leased residences. Such rents and charges are deposited in a special Treasury fund and remain available for obligation for operation and maintenance of quarters until expended.

Roads & Trails for States

Budget Line Item	Roads and Trails for States			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Roads and Trails for States				
New Budget Authority	0	\$16,000	\$16,000	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

Under this fund, 10 percent of all National Forest Fund receipts, which is inclusive of both fees and other types of revenue, are used by the Forest Service without regard to the State in which the amounts were derived, to repair or reconstruct roads, bridges, and trails on National Forest System (NFS) lands. Funds are directed towards correcting road and trail deficiencies that adversely affect ecosystems.

Beginning in FY 1999 and continuing in subsequent appropriation acts, the authority was expanded to allow the use of funds for the purpose of improving forest health conditions and repairing or reconstructing roads and bridges on NFS lands in the wildland-urban interface where there is an abnormally high risk of fire. The program reduces risk to human safety and public health and property and enhances ecological functions, long-term forest productivity, and biological integrity. Work previously funded under this program has been funded through the Legacy Roads and Trails budget line item.

The last fiscal year that the Forest Service was authorized to obligate new collections from the Roads and Trails Fund was in FY 2007.

Authorities

The Act of March 4, 1913, as amended (16 U.S.C. 501). This act authorizes 10 percent of all National Forest Fund receipts received by the national forests during each fiscal year to be expended for the construction and maintenance of roads and trails within the national forests in the States from which proceeds are derived.

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (P.L. 110–161, div F, title III, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2129). This act directed “That funds becoming available in FY 2008 under the Act of March 4, 1913, (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated.”

Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-88, div. A, title III, Oct. 30, 2009, 123 Stat. 2940). This act directed “That funds becoming available in FY 2010 under the act of March 4, 1913, (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated.”

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (P.L. 112-74). This act directed “That funds becoming available in FY 2012 under the act of March 4, 1913, (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated.”

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76). This act directed “That funds becoming available in FY 2014 under the Act of March 4, 1913, (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and shall not be available for transfer or obligation for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated.”

Land Between the Lakes Management

Budget Line Item	Land Between the Lakes Management			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Land Between the Lakes Management				
New Budget Authority	\$4,655	\$5,000	\$5,000	0
Program Level	4,254	4,254	4,254	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	11	11	11	0

Program Overview

The Land Between the Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area provides public recreational opportunities; conserves fish and wildlife and their habitat; provides for a diversity of plants and animals; and offers opportunities for hunting, fishing, and environmental education. LBL hosts an average of 1.6 million visits annually from people all over the Nation and more than 30 foreign countries. LBL continues to demonstrate success with its camping reservation system, which allows visitors to register for camp sites before arrival.

Section 524 of the Land Between the Lakes Protection Act established a special fund known as the LBL Management fund. All amounts received from charges, user fees, and natural resource use, including timber and agricultural receipts, are deposited into the fund. Funds are available for management of LBL, including payment of salaries and expenses.

Authority

Land Between the Lakes Protection Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 460III-24) (P.L. 105-277, div. A, Sec. 101(e) [title V, Sec. 524], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-315). This act establishes the LBL Management fund. In accordance with Title V of the Act, responsibility for the LBL National Recreation Area in Kentucky and Tennessee transferred from the Tennessee Valley Authority to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Rental Fees

Budget Line Item	Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Rental Fees			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Rental Fees				
New Budget Authority	\$755	\$1,000	\$1,000	0
Program Level	760	760	760	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995 established the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (MNTP) Rental Fees to be managed as part of the National Forest System. The act authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to issue agricultural special use authorizations and grazing permits. After appropriate payments to the State of Illinois and Will County, pursuant to the act of May 23, 1908, and Section 13 of the act of March 1, 1911 (16 U.S.C. 500), available receipts from rental fees may be used to cover the cost of ecosystem restoration, prairie improvements, and administrative activities directly related to those activities. These funds provide for maintenance of native plant communities and grassland bird habitat at the MNTP. The ability to collect funds from grazing and agricultural uses provides an essential financial resource to MNTP managers to continue to restore ecosystems and habitats in order to enhance biodiversity; promote scientific, environmental, and educational research; and develop best practices for land management.

Authorities

The Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 1609 note) (P.L. 104-106, div. B, [Title XXIX, sec. 2915 (b), (c)], Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 601-602). The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to issue agricultural special use authorizations or grazing permits for purposes primarily related to erosion control, provision for food and habitat for fish and wildlife, or other resource management activities consistent with the purposes of the MNTP.

Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Restoration

Budget Line Item	Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Restoration			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie Restoration				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995 established the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (MNTP) to be managed as part of the National Forest System. There are two separate funds: the agricultural rental fund that funds prairie restoration, and the salvage fund that may be used for all other activities. Receipts from grazing fees, agricultural leases for row crops, sales of surplus equipment, and the salvage value proceeds from the sale of any facilities and improvements can be used to cover the cost of restoration of ecosystems; construction of a visitor center, recreational facilities, trails, and administrative office; prairie improvement; and operation and maintenance.

Authorities

The Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 1609 note) (P.L. 104-106, div. B, [title XXIX, sec. 2915 (d), (e) and (f)], Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 602). The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to charge reasonable user fees for the admission, occupancy, and use of the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, and may sell for salvage value any facilities and improvements which have been transferred under this act. The Secretary may use amounts in the fund, in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation acts, for restoration and administration of the MNTP.

Quinault Special Management Area Fund

Budget Line Item	Quinault Special Management Area			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Quinault Special Management Area				
New Budget Authority	0	0	0	0
Program Level	\$2	\$2	\$2	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

This program and budget line item for the Quinault Special Management Area (QSMA) is unique to the Forest Service. The QSMA is over 5,400 acres, as prescribed by law, which the Olympic National Forest manages for the Quinault Indian Nation. Specifically, the lands are defined under Section 2 of the aforementioned act. All receipts from use of this land, including timber sales, firewood, botanicals, special use permits, and minerals, are divided with 45 percent going to the State of Washington, 45 percent to the Quinault Tribe, and 10 percent towards management of those lands by the Olympic National Forest. Quarterly, the Olympic National Forest processes the receipts and sends a letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Tribal Chair, documenting the receipts that will be transferred to Bureau for disbursement to the Tribe.

Authorities

The Act of November 8, 1988 (P.L 100-638) (102 Stat. 3327). This act established the Quinault Special Management Area from part of the Olympic National Forest, and it assigns responsibility to the Forest Service for managing its natural resources and distributing proceeds from the sale of forest products according to provisions of the Act.

The act authorizes 10 percent of the gross proceeds from the sale of forest products on the QSMA are transferred to this account and are available for administration of future timber sales. The act also provides for the distribution of gross receipts from a special management area to compensate the Quinault Indian Tribe and the State of Washington for land that the Forest Service gave back to the Tribe. The distribution must be used for roads and schools.

Restoration of Forest Lands & Improvements

Budget Line Item	Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements				
New Budget Authority	\$10,607	\$20,000	\$11,000	-\$9,000
Program Level	67,275	67,275	67,275	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	154	154	154	0

Program Overview

This authority protects the interests of the Forest Service by allowing the agency to address a variety of situations. When work under a permit or timber sale contract is not completed by a permittee or timber purchaser, they forfeit their bond or deposit. These funds then transfer to the Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements fund, allowing the Forest Service to complete the needed restoration and rehabilitation work.

This authority also protects the interests of the American public from present or potential damage to National Forest System lands or improvements due to the actions of another party. This authority provides the Forest Service with the ability to use funds from a judgment, compromise, or claim settlement to address those damages.

Based on a Comptroller General's Decision (67 Comp. Gen. 276), collections may be used to reimburse the Forest Service for any restoration costs paid from Forest Service appropriations before the collections were received.

Authorities

The Act of June 20, 1958 (16 U.S.C. 579c) (P.L. 85-464, Sec. 7, June 20, 1958, 72 Stat. 217). This act authorizes establishment of a fund for improvement, protection, or rehabilitation of lands under the administration of the Forest Service. This fund receives monies from: (a) forfeiture of a bond or deposit by a permittee or timber purchaser for failure to complete performance of improvement, protection, or rehabilitation work required under the permit or timber sale contract; or (b) the result of a judgment, compromise, or settlement of any claim, involving present or potential damage to lands or improvements. Funds are available until expended to cover the costs of performing the required work. Any funds received in excess of the amount expended in performing the work shall be transferred to miscellaneous receipts.

Commercial Filming & Still Photography Land Use Fee Retention

Budget Line Item	Commercial Filming and Still Photography Land Use Fee Retention			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Commercial Filming and Still Photography Land Use Fee Retention				
New Budget Authority	\$672	\$671	\$671	0
Program Level	517	517	517	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	6	6	6	0

Program Overview

Fees retained by the Forest Service in this fund are used to manage and respond to film/photo use requests in an expedited manner. For example, forest units use these funds to assess popular film/photo locations in advance of requests and to develop and post information on film/photo procedures specific to the unit. Regional and national units use these funds to provide management oversight, develop policy, and coordinate inter-regional or inter-forest film/photo requests prior to accepting a proposal as a formal application.

Authorities

The Act of May 26, 2000 (16 U.S.C. 460l-6d) (P. L. 106-206). This act authorizes retention of fees collected for commercial filming and photography land use authorizations and obligation of the monies for maintenance of the filming site. Land use fees are based on a schedule to use and occupy National Forest System land for filming/photo activities. This fee is separate from the cost recovery fee to process applications and to monitor the authorization for compliance with the commercial filming permit.

Organizational Camps Program

Budget Line Item	Organizational Camps Program			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Organizational Camps Program				
New Budget Authority	\$683	\$682	\$682	0
Program Level	1,000	1,000	1,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	6	6	6	0

Program Overview

Organizational camp fees are based on a percentage of the agricultural land value, adjusted downward for services provided to disabled individuals and at-risk youth. Fees collected are available until expended for program administration, monitoring special use authorizations, interpretive programs, environmental analysis and restoration activities, and similar purposes.

The Forest Service administers approximately 300 permits for organizational camps. Work activities include performing oversight, inspection, and monitoring of existing authorizations to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the authorization.

Organizational camps have a three-part fee system:

- Land Use Fees – Fees are based on a percentage of the agricultural land value, adjusted downward for services provided to disabled individuals and at-risk youth. The land use fee may be offset by work performed pursuant to Section 3 of the Federal Timber Contract Payment Modification Act (16 U.S.C. 539f).
- Facility Use Fees – If an organizational camp utilizes a federally-owned facility, a fee is assessed based on five percent of the value of the government owned improvements.
- Fees Based on Other Revenue – If permit holders earn revenue from activities other than providing youth services, a fee is assessed based on five percent of revenue.

Authorities

National Forest Organizational Camp Fee Improvement Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6231 et seq.) (P.L. 108-7). This act defines an organizational camp as a public or semipublic camp developed by a nonprofit or government entity to introduce young people or people with disabilities to activities they might not otherwise experience and to educate them on natural resource issues. The act establishes a land use fee system for organizational camps located on NFS lands and authorizes the Secretary to retain and spend these fees without further appropriation. The act also exempts certain ministerial actions from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Cost Recovery (Land Uses)

Budget Line Item	Cost Recovery (Land Uses)			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Cost Recovery (Land Uses)				
New Budget Authority	\$8,386	\$767	\$767	0
Program Level	5,122	5,122	5,122	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	41	41	41	0

Program Overview

Programs included in this fund are:

Cost Recovery Lands Major Projects - All recreation and non-recreation (land) uses that require more than 50 hours of agency time to process or monitor. Uses involving construction/reconstruction are deemed to be Major Categories for which the agency collects all appropriate administrative costs.

Cost Recovery Lands Minor Projects - Excluding recreation uses, all non-recreation (land) uses not subject to exemption or waiver that require 50 hours or less of agency time to process or monitor are deemed Minor Categories. These categories use a flat fee schedule established in four different tiers, subject to annual indexing.

Each year, the Forest Service processes between 6,000 and 9,000 applications for the use and occupancy of National Forest System (NFS) lands, and administers more than 80,000 authorizations for a wide variety of non-occupancy purposes, including energy-related uses, broadband and communication facilities, and campground management. Processing and authorizing these uses is an important component of facilitating the development and transmission of affordable and reliable energy and communication services, supporting national security, supporting economic development, and promoting the public health and safety of populations within or in proximity to national forests and grasslands throughout the Nation.

Work activities include:

- Evaluating applications to use Federal land for other government use; commercial, and private requests to assure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, land use plans; and the technical and financial capability of applicants to conduct use on NFS land.
- Conducting appropriate environmental, social, and economic analyses on requests to use NFS land pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.
- Developing special use authorizations with appropriate terms and conditions that ensure protection of public health and safety and resource protection measures.
- Performing oversight and inspection of certain authorization activities associated with construction/reconstruction activities.

All determinations are subject to dispute, allowing the applicant or holder to question the validity of the estimated cost recovery fee in the initial determination. Disputes must provide written rationale and evidence as to why the estimated fee is in error, and suggest alternative fee estimations based in fact. Waivers of cost recovery fees are provided for local, State, or Federal governmental applicants and for recreation use authorizations taking 50 hours or less to process.

Authorities

Special Use Application and Permit Monitoring Fees (Recovery of Costs). P.L. 106-113, Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, Section 331 (113 Stat. 1501A-196 - 197), as amended by P.L. 108-447, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005, Division E, Section 345 (118 Stat. 3105), P.L. 109-54, Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, Section 425 (119 Stat. 555), P.L. 110-161 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 and P.L. 113-6 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013. This act provides authority through September 30, 2013, to implement a pilot program to improve customer service to applicants and holders of special land use authorizations and reduce the agency's backlog of expired authorizations.

Forest Service Administration of Rights-of-Way and Land uses; Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (P.L. 113-76). This act provides permanent authority to retain and spend fees as originally authorized under Section 331 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (as enacted into law by section 1000(a)(3) of Public Law 106-113; 16 U.S.C. 497 note).

Numerous Federal statutes authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to assess and collect fees from applicants for, and holders of, special use authorizations. These fees pay for the agency's administrative costs to process and monitor applications for such authorizations. These authorities include the Independent Offices Appropriations Act of 1952 (P.L. 82-137); Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (P.L. 66-146); and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (P.L. 94-579).

Licensee Program Smokey Bear

Budget Line Item	Licensee Program Smokey Bear			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Licensee Program Smokey Bear				
New Budget Authority	\$99	\$98	\$98	0
Program Level	61	61	61	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Smokey Bear program supports national initiatives, programs, and products that help increase public awareness in regard to wildfire prevention. The licensee contractor manages the marketing and administration of the commercial license program, and receives 35 percent of the royalties collected for its services. The national wildfire prevention Branch Chief manages the licensing contract. Smokey Bear royalties also support the National Smokey Bear Award program and the national wildfire prevention public service campaign. The Chief of the Forest Service has discretionary authority to use money from royalties in special projects, such as Smokey Bear birthday celebrations, that support the Smokey Bear wildfire prevention message.

Authorities

Fees for the use of the Smokey Bear character by private enterprises are collected under regulations formulated by the Secretary of Agriculture. They are available to further the nationwide forest fire prevention campaign (P.L. 82-359, CH. 327, 16 U.S.C. 580 p-2), (18 U.S.C. 711), (P.L. 93-318).

Licensee Program Woodsy Owl

Budget Line Item	Licensee Program Woodsy Owl			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Licensee Program Woodsy Owl				
New Budget Authority	\$7	\$7	\$7	0
Program Level	0	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Woodsy Owl program supports national initiatives, programs, and products that help increase public awareness of activities and issues related to improvement and maintenance of the environment. The Conservation Education program identifies funding for the Woodsy Owl conservation program initiative to develop products, to manage the licensing program, and to enhance partnerships. One of these activities includes the management of the licensing program. The licensing contractor receives 35 percent of the royalties reported. In addition, during FY 2017 a share of the licensing fund will be used to continue promoting Woodsy's partnership with the Office of the Head Start. This will cover the cost of materials and supplies that will be sent to Head Start classrooms upon request.

Authorities

Fees for using the Woodsy Owl character by private enterprises are collected under regulations formulated by the Secretary of Agriculture. They are available to promote wise use of the environment and programs that foster maintenance and improvement of environmental quality (16 U.S.C. 580 p-1) (formerly classified as 31 U.S.C. 488a, 488b-3, 488b-6) (18 U.S.C. 711a).

Forest Service Go-Green Program (Conservation)

Budget Line Item	Forest Service Go Green Program (Conservation)			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Forest Service Go Green Program (Conservation)				
New Budget Authority	\$34	\$33	\$33	0
Program Level	19	19	19	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Forest Service promoted the implementation of the “Go Green” program on the national forests and grasslands in FY 2009 to help meet the agency’s recycling and waste reduction goals. Go Green funds are collected not only from recycling simple items such as cans, but also from recycling abandoned vehicles and appliances which makes this funding essential for land management. This funding enables field units to also accomplish clean-up activities they otherwise might not be able to accomplish.

Since FY 2009, the implementation of the authority to collect revenue resulting from waste prevention and recycling programs has increased significantly. The funding level in this program depends on the proceeds collected. As information on Go Green is more widely shared, funding levels are expected to increase. Every dollar collected under this authority offsets funding from other programs.

In FY 2018, we anticipate our Go Green program will continue to grow given increasing awareness through our Sustainable Operations peer learning series.

Authorities

Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2002, authorizes Federal agencies to receive and use revenue resulting from waste prevention and recycling programs. Such revenue shall be available until expended for the purpose of waste reduction, prevention, and recycling programs.

Accountable property is excluded from this program, which includes all capital leases and all owned personal property having an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more. Excess property, such as electronics and other personal property that is not considered accountable property, follows an initial screening by U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies which determines if the property is eligible for donation, to be transferred to another government agency, or to be recycled. Other items excluded from the scope of this program are Forest Service and General Services Administration vehicles, which also have disposal/excess rules in place.

Conveyance of Administrative Sites

Budget Line Item	Conveyance of Administrative Sites			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Conveyance of Administrative Sites				
New Budget Authority	\$16,901	\$8,000	\$1,000	-\$7,000
Program Level	11,308	7,500	7,500	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	3	3	3	0

Program Overview

It is currently a priority for Federal agencies to dispose of unneeded properties and make more efficient use of the Government's real estate.

The Administrative Site Conveyances Program allows the agency to convey unneeded administrative sites and retain the proceeds for building maintenance, rehabilitation, and construction. The program provides for the realignment of the agency's facility portfolio by providing an incentive for local managers to liquidate obsolete or underutilized assets and reinvest in assets that best support the agency's mission. This authority provides the opportunity to efficiently address current and future needs, reduce annual lease costs, and reduce the deferred maintenance backlog. In addition to operational benefits, the program provides substantial economic and social benefits. These include providing local communities with an additional tax base and opportunities for redevelopment to align with community plans and economic stimulus strategies.

The Forest Service currently owns approximately 16,500 administrative and research buildings. A large number of these facilities do not meet the agency's needs, and are either underutilized or in need of maintenance in order to meet current health and safety standards. More than 60 percent of Forest Service facilities are more than 30 years old, and more than half have exceeded their design life. Without major and often costly renovations, these structures frequently fail to meet administrative needs due to inadequate space, improper location, high maintenance costs, and failure to meet current health, safety, and accessibility codes. Improving asset management allows the agency to fully utilize mission critical and mission dependent assets and manage those assets in the right condition and at the right cost.

Work functions for this program include: notification, analysis, valuation, and realty case processing services; facility repairs, preventive maintenance and replacement of parts and structural components; construction of new facilities; alteration of existing facilities to change function; and expansion of facilities to meet the needs of changing mission critical functions.

The tables below show final project accomplishments for FY2016 (Table A) and proposed new conveyance projects for FY 2018 (Table C), as the Administration is including a legislative proposal to extend the Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act (FSFREA) for 2018. As FSFREA is not currently authorized for 2017, this section does not include the customary table showing changes in land conveyance projects in the current fiscal year.

Authorities

Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act of 2005, (FSFREA), Title V of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (P.L. 109-54). This act provided authority through September 30, 2008, to convey unneeded administrative sites and retain the proceeds for building maintenance, rehabilitation, and construction provided certain criteria contained in Title V are met. This authority was subsequently extended through September 30, 2016. As of this writing there have been no further extensions.

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (P.L. 112-74, Title IV, Sec. 421). This Act amends Section 503(f) of the Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act of 2005 (Title V of the Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006, P.L. 109-54; 16 U.S.C. 580d note), as amended by section 422(1) of Public Law 111-8 (123 Stat. 748), by extending authorization to September 30, 2016.

Revenues received from the sale of land or structures are deposited into the Sisk Act Fund and are available without further appropriation.

TABLE A
FY 2016 Final Accomplishments Land and Facility Conveyance Projects
(dollars in thousands)

Region	State	Congressional District	Forest	Project Name	Year Initiated	*Sale Value	Acres Conveyed	*Deferred Maintenance Eliminated	Gross Square Feet Reduced
1	MT	1	Beaverhead-Deerlodge	Sheridan Work Center	2016	\$210	1.09	\$62	4,802
4	WY	1	Bridger-Teton	Bridger-Teton SO	2008	9,100	10.0	1,234	36,621
4	UT	3	Uinta-Wasatch-Cache	Provo Warehouse Site	2014	210	0.18	59	3,100
6	OR	2	Umatilla	Waid Street (Ukiah Residence)	2014	15	0.1	63	1,075
6	OR	4	Rogue River Siskiyou	"L" Street	2010	319	3.3	376.8	25,054
8	VA	9	Jefferson	Mullins Cemetery Tract J-9013	*N/A	1	0.68	0	0
8	VA	9	Jefferson	Williams Tract J-1497	*N/A	48	2.66	25	2,000
9	MO	8	Mark Twain	Potosi Assistant Ranger Dwelling	2006	56	2.0	30	1,244
Total, Forest Service						\$9,959	20.01	\$1,849.8	73,896

TABLE C
FY 2018 New Conveyance Projects
(dollars in thousands)

Region	State	Congressional District	Forest	Project Name	Gross Square Feet Reduced	Acres	Deferred Maintenance Reduction	Estimated Sale Value	Proceeds for Maintenance	Proceeds for new Construction	Proceeds for Bldg. Disposal	Planned Conveyance Completion Date
1	ID	ID 1	IPNF	Bartoo Island Cabin	1,483	2	\$458	\$600		\$600		2020
1	ID	ID 1	IPNF	Peterson Point Lookout	0	3	0	10		10		2020
1	MT	1	Lolo	Thompson Falls Admin 1	0	40	0	180		180		2020
1	MT	1	Lolo	Thompson Falls Admin 2	0	40	0	180		180		2020
1	MT	1	Lolo	Thompson Falls Admin 3	0	40	0	180		180		2020

Region	State	Congressional District	Forest	Project Name	Gross Square Feet Reduced	Acres	Deferred Maintenance Reduction	Estimated Sale Value	Proceeds for Maintenance	Proceeds for new Construction	Proceeds for Bldg. Disposal	Planned Conveyance Completion Date
1	MT	1	Lolo	Thompson Falls Admin 4	0	40	0	180		180		2020
2	CO	3	Routt	Yampa Ranger Station Alley	N/A	0.2	N/A	10	10	0	0	2018
2	CO	3	San Juan	Cole Ranch	10,568	38	not evaluated	500		500		2019
3	AZ	4	Prescott	Bradshaw RD Office	14,176	0.6	132	3,500		3,500		2019
3	AZ	4	Prescott	Chino Valley RD Office	5,493	10	75	3,000		3,000		2019
3	AZ	4	Prescott	Groom Creek Work Center	2,774	7	243	350		300		2019
3	AZ	1	Coconino	Verde Land Parcels	0	22		440		350		2019
4	Utah	1	Ashley	Ashleyway Homes and NRA Warehouse Conveyance	5,324	1.8	77	345		345		2018
4	Utah	1	Ashley	Dutch John Dwelling #5071 (single family dwelling)	1,646	0.24	24.6	120		120		2018
4	Utah	1	Ashley	Dutch John Dwelling #5072 (single family dwelling)	1,164	0.25	37.9	100		100		2018
4	Utah	1	Ashley	Dutch John Administrative Building	8,288	1	64	350		350		2018
8	GA	14	Chatt-Oconee	Whitfield Riverbend Road	0	13		215		215		6/30/2018
8	AR	4	Ozark-St. Francis	Jasper Ranger Dwelling	1,922	1	5	150	150			9/30/2019
8	AR	4	Ozark-St. Francis	Paris Residence #110016	1,509	1	10	125	125			9/30/2019
8	AR	4	Ozark-St. Francis	Paris Residence #110017	1,471	1	10	110	110			9/30/2019
8	VA	9	Jefferson	Shelor Tract J-846	1,608	0.28	10	115	115			2019
8	VA	9	Jefferson	Vicars Tract J-982	1,323	0.41	15	125	125			2019
8	VA	9	George Washington	Deerfield Work Center	9,510	8.00	65	350	350			2020
8	AR		Ouachita	Ouachita Job Corp Center	20,000	15	150	800	400	400		2021
10	AK		Tongass	Thorn Bay Lot II	15,500	10	542	350	350			2019
10	AK		Tongass	Thorn Bay Sort Yard	0	30	0	250	250			2019
Total, All Forest Service					103,759	326	\$1,919	\$12,635	\$1,985	\$10,510	\$0	

Site-Specific Lands Act

Budget Line Item	Site-Specific Lands Acts (dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Permanent Funds				
Site-Specific Lands Acts				
New Budget Authority	\$289	\$1,000	\$1,000	0
Program Level	376	500	500	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	1	1	1	0

Program Overview

This program enables the collection of receipts from the sale of National Forest System land pursuant to special acts passed by Congress. The proceeds are used for specific improvements to lands and facilities within the same national forest or State.

The legislated project may include work functions such as: notification, analysis, valuation, and realty case processing services; construction of new facilities; alteration of existing facilities to change function; and expansion of facilities to meet the needs of changing mission critical functions. Projects are identified annually through the legislative process. As a result, benefits and funds collected vary each year based on legislation.

Authorities

Sisk Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 484a; P.L. 90-171). The Sisk Act is an exchange authority that allows certain parties to deposit cash, in lieu of land, to complete a land exchange. The funds are then utilized by the Secretary to acquire non-Federal properties. Subsequently, other authorities have specified that the Sisk Act account be utilized to hold other proceeds until expended, consistent with the legislation. Revenues received from the sale of land or structures are deposited into the Sisk Act Fund and are available without further appropriation for the purpose(s) specified in the statutes.

Payment to States

Budget Line Item	Payment to States (dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	FY 2018 vs FY 2017
Payment to States Funds				
National Forest Fund Payments to States Available, Title I & III				
New Budget Authority	\$155,401	0	0	0
Program Level	100,049	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Payments to States Act of 1908				
New Budget Authority	0	50,000	50,000	0
Program Level	0	50,000	50,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Payments to States Supplemental				
New Budget Authority	145,400	0	0	0
Program Level	145,400	0	0	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Payments to Minnesota Counties				
New Budget Authority	6,150	6,150	6,150	0
Program Level	5,732	6,150	6,150	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Payments to Counties, Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act				
New Budget Authority	28,435	21,000	21,000	0
Program Level	26,501	21,000	21,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Secure Payments for States (SRS), Title II				
New Budget Authority	26,812	0	0	0
Program Level	14,295	14,295	14,295	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	42	42	42	0
Secure Payments for States/Repayment per DOT Reauthorization				
New Budget Authority	193	0	0	0
Program Level	128	128	128	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Payment to State Funds New Budget Authority	\$362,391	\$77,150	\$77,150	\$0
Payment Funds Program Level	\$292,105	\$91,573	\$91,573	\$0
Payment to States Funds Full-Time Equivalent (FTEs)	42	42	42	0

Program Overview

National Forest Fund Payments to States Available, Title I & III

The National Forest Fund Payment to States Available is an account where all receipts that are projected to be used for Title I and Title III payments under Secure Rural Schools Payments for States (SRS) are deposited. These funds, combined with a Payments to States U.S. Treasury transfer, are the source of payments to States under the SRS Act.

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as amended (16 U.S.C. 500) (SRS Act) directs that Title I funds be used to help fund county schools and roads. Title III may be used on county projects including activities under the Firewise Communities program, reimbursement for emergency services on national forests, and preparation of community wildfire protection plans. The National Forest Fund Payment to States Available is an account where all receipts that are projected to be used for Title I and Title III payments under the SRS Act are deposited. These receipts, combined with the Payments to States Supplemental, are the source of payments to states under the SRS Act, most recently reauthorized by P.L. 114-10 on April 16, 2015.

As of this writing, Congress has not reauthorized the SRS Act. Without Congressional reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act (SRS Act), therefore, the Forest Service was required to revert to making payments to States under the 1908 Act, commonly called the 25 percent payments, for the 2017 payment year. USDA Forest Service processed a payment to each State on or about March 7, 2017. Information about the 2017 payments can be found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/pts/>.

Twenty-five Percent Payment

The term “twenty-five percent payment” means the payment to States required by the sixth paragraph under the heading of “FOREST SERVICE” in the Act of May 23, 1908. Twenty-five percent payments, authorized under the SRS Act, are annual payments to States on a 25 percent seven-year rolling average of revenues basis from the sale of goods and services provided by the national forests. The SRS Act directs that States shall use these payments for schools and/or roads projects. The SRS Act was amended on October 3, 2008, in P.L. 110-343, Division C, Title VI. P.L. 110-343 which, among other things, changed the payment formula. Instead of being based on each year’s receipts, payments to the States are now based on a rolling seven-year average of receipts (16 U.S.C. 500).

Payments to States Supplemental

Under the Secure Rural Schools Act, the Forest Service first uses all forest receipts from the National Forest Fund receipt account to fund SRS Act payments. If those receipts are insufficient, a request is made to U.S. Treasury to transfer the additional amount required to fully fund SRS Act formula payments.

Counties that opted to not receive formula payments under the SRS Act, do receive with few exceptions 25 percent of all moneys collected from the national forests in which the counties are located. Counties that elected to receive their share of a State’s SRS Act formula payment, receive payments under a formula based on several factors, including acreage of Federal land, previous payments, and per capita personal income.

Payments to Minnesota Counties

This authority derives from the Thye-Blatnick Act of June 22, 1948, as amended (16 U.S.C. 577g), Payment for Additional Lands Acquired in Northern Minnesota. This Act directed the Secretary of Agriculture to acquire resorts, cabins, and private lands within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and permanent residents were prohibited after 1974. Additionally, in-lieu-of-tax payments were authorized to Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties for Federal wilderness land from any national forest receipts not otherwise appropriated. At the close of each fiscal year, the State of Minnesota is paid three-fourths of one percent of the appraised value of certain Superior National Forest lands in the counties of St. Louis, Cook, and Lake for distribution to those counties. The land value is reappraised every 10-years. New appraisals were last completed in 2008.

Payments to Counties, Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act

This authority derives from title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of July 22, 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1012). This Act pertains primarily to national grasslands and land use projects. Annual payments are authorized to counties that contain Forest Service lands acquired under the Bankhead-Jones Act. Twenty-five percent of the revenues received during the year, excluding receipts from the sale of land, from each national grassland or land utilization project are paid to the counties in which such lands are located. The funds are restricted to uses that benefit public schools and roads.

Secure Payments for States (SRS), Title II

The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 500) originally authorized through FY 2006 as P.L. 106-393, provided choices to counties to either receive a guaranteed level of annual payments for roads and schools and other authorized purposes, as well as funding for specific resource improvement projects on the national forest where the county is located, or to receive payments under the Act of May 23, 1908. The Act was reauthorized through FY 2011 on October 3, 2008, in P.L. 110-343, Division C, Title VI. P.L. 112-141 reauthorized the program through FY 2012 and P.L. 113-40 reauthorized the program again through FY 2013. There was then a two year reauthorization for FY 2014 through FY 2015 under section 524 of P.L. 114-10. The most recent authorization, by P.L. 114-10, locks-in the elections made by counties to be the same as for the FY 2013 payment that was made in FY 2014.

Secure Payments for States Failure to Elect and Return to Treasury Option

The SRS Act (16 U.S.C. sec. 7112) required an eligible county that received a share of the SRS formula payment greater than \$100,000 to submit its election to allocate its share among titles of the SRS Act not later than September 30 each year, prior to P.L. 114-10. Under the most recent reauthorization of the SRS Act, by P.L. 114-10 elections are locked in. Prior to P.L. 114-10, an eligible county that failed to make a timely election was considered to have elected to expend 80 percent of the funds in accordance with the provisions of the 1908 Act. The remaining funds become available to the Forest Service to carry out projects in the eligible county to further protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other resource objectives consistent with the purposes of the SRS Act on Federal land and on non-Federal land where projects would benefit the resources on Federal land. In FY 2016, failure to elect funds, per 16 U.S.C. 7112(d)(3)(B)(ii), totaled \$192,900.01. A county may also opt to return its SRS Act formula allocation, in whole or part, to the U.S. Treasury per U.S.C. 7112(d)(1)(C)(ii). In FY 2016 a total of \$125,405.05 was returned to the U.S. Treasury.

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Trust Funds

Budget Line Item	Trust Funds			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Trust Funds				
Cooperative Work, Knutson-Vandenberg				
New Budget Authority	\$210,171	\$39,000	\$40,000	\$1,000
Program Level	58,154	75,000	71,000	4,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	367	367	367	0
Cooperative Work, Other				
New Budget Authority	84,139	30,000	30,000	0
Program Level	43,744	44,000	44,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	216	216	216	0
Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund				
New Budget Authority	92	90	90	0
Program Level	82	81	81	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0
Reforestation Trust Fund				
New Budget Authority	30,000	30,000	30,000	0
Program Level	31,769	32,000	27,000	-5,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	158	158	158	0
Trust Funds New Budget Authority	\$324,402	\$99,090	\$100,090	1,000
Trust Funds Program Level	\$133,749	\$151,081	\$142,081	-9000
Trust Funds Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	741	741	741	0

Cooperative Work - Knutson-Vandenberg

Appropriation	Cooperative Work - Knutson-Vandenberg			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Trust Funds				
Cooperative Work, Knutson-Vandenberg				
New Budget Authority	\$210,171	\$39,000	\$40,000	\$1,000
Program Level	58,154	75,000	71,000	4,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	367	367	367	0

Program Overview

The following programs are included in this fund:

Knutson-Vandenberg (K-V) - This program uses funds derived from timber sale revenues to accomplish improvement work within the timber sale area. Planned resource project work is documented in the sale area improvement plans as determined by the project environmental analysis. The first priority for K-V program funds is reforestation of harvested areas. These funds can also be used to perform timber stand improvement and protection, and for the improvement of other resource values, including wildlife, soil, watershed, range, and recreation.

Knutson-Vandenberg Regional Work - The FY 2006 Interior Appropriations Act expanded the authority to allow for the expenditure of unused funds, not needed to accomplish work on the timber sale area, on another area "...within the Forest Service region in which the timber sale occurred." Unused collections are generated when actual costs are less than planned costs. This authority is used to accomplish watershed restoration; wildlife habitat improvement; control of insects, disease, and noxious weeds; community protection activities; and the maintenance of forest roads. The work can be performed through the use of contracts, forest product sales, and cooperative agreements. If forest product sales are used to accomplish these objectives, K-V Regional Work program funds may be utilized for timber sale planning, preparation, administration, engineering support, and land line location.

Authorities

The Act of June 9, 1930, (16 USC 576b) (P.L. 71-319, Ch. 416, June 9, 1930, 46 Stat. 527, as amended by P.L. 94-588, 1976, and P.L. 109-54, [Title IV, Sec. 412], Aug. 2, 2005, 119 Stat. 551). The act, known as the Knutson-Vandenberg Act, established a special fund to collect a portion of timber sale receipts to pay for reforesting the area from which the timber was cut. The act was amended in 1976 to allow the Forest Service to use these funds for other sale area improvement activities. The FY 2006 Interior Appropriations Act amended this authority to allow for the expenditure of unused funds, not needed to accomplish work on the sale area, on other areas "...within the Forest Service region in which the timber sale occurred."

Cooperative Work - Other

Budget Line Item	Cooperative Work, Other			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Trust Funds				
Cooperative Work, Other				
New Budget Authority	\$84,139	\$30,000	\$30,000	0
Program Level	43,744	44,000	44,000	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	216	216	216	0

Program Overview

The Cooperative Work, Other fund is used to collect deposits received from partners and cooperators for protecting and improving resources of the National Forest System (NFS) as authorized by cooperative agreements. The deposits are for a wide variety of activities that benefit and support programs in Forest and Rangeland Research, on NFS lands, and for other agency activities.

Cooperative Work, Agreement Based – This is a direct project-to-customer relationship, typically involving long-term liability on the part of the Forest Service to perform work for the contributor. An example of this work are special use permits with collection provisions under the Granger-Thye fee offset where the Forest Service has a liability to perform work for the permit holder specially tied to the permit. These agreements should typically be accompanied by a collection agreement.

Cooperative Work, Non-Agreement Based – These deposits occur when the terms of the authorizing instrument, such as a permit or sale contract, allow for deposits from multiple contributors to be pooled and expended for the intended purpose. The majority of these pooled collections are not subject to refunds in accordance with the provisions of the respective authorizing instrument.

Cooperative deposits are received from a vast assortment of local, regional, and national organizations and individuals; State and other public agencies; industrial associations; and other private sources. The deposits are made under a variety of cooperative instruments that specify the mutual benefits of the work. Cooperative deposits leverage appropriated funds to increase effectiveness and complement the objectives of Forest Service appropriated resource management programs and cooperative research projects. These programs and projects may involve any aspect of forestry and vary widely in scope and duration.

Cooperative road maintenance deposits can be made by commercial users of the National Forest Road System in lieu of actually performing their commensurate share of road maintenance. These deposits are used in conjunction with the other road maintenance appropriations to provide maintenance of NFS roads by the Forest Service.

Deposits for administering and protecting non-Federal land within or near the national forests can be made by owners of non-Federal lands that are intermingled with, or adjacent to, NFS lands. These deposits help landowners manage their lands in accordance with good forest management practices and provide for wildfire protection on State and private lands intermingled with Federal ownership.

Authorities

The Act of June 30, 1914 (16 U.S.C. 498). This act authorizes the acceptance of contributions for cooperative work in forest investigations, protection, management, and improvement of the National Forest System.

The Granger-Thye Act of April 24, 1950 (16 U.S.C. 572). This act authorizes cooperation with other parties to perform work for permittees, agencies, organizations, and persons for the kinds of work that the Forest Service is authorized to do on lands of the United States.

The Roads and Trails Act of October 13, 1964 (16 U.S.C. 532-537). This act authorizes the construction of roads using cooperative financing from other agencies.

The Act of June 30, 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1643). This act authorizes the acceptance and use of donated funds for research activities.

The Act of October 10, 1978 (7 U.S.C. 2269). This act authorizes agencies within the USDA to accept donations for non-research activities.

The Act of June 6, 1968 (16 U.S.C. 693d). This act authorizes cooperation in the operation of the Robert S. Kerr Memorial Arboretum and Nature Center.

The Act of July 4, 1968 (16 U.S.C. 471h). This act authorizes cooperation in the operation of the Cradle of Forestry.

Title 31, United States Code, section 1321 (31 U.S.C. 1321). Section 1321 of Title 31 of the United States Code authorizes Trust Funds.

Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund

Budget Line Item	Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Trust Funds				
Land Between the Lakes Trust Fund				
New Budget Authority	\$92	\$90	\$90	0
Program Level	82	81	81	0
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	0	0	0	0

Program Overview

The Land Between the Lakes Protection Act called for (LBL), an area in western Kentucky and Tennessee, to be managed as a unit of the National Forest System. Section 531 of the Act established a special interest-bearing fund known as the LBL trust fund, to be available for public education, grants, and internships related to recreation, conservation, and multiple-use land management as well as regional promotion in cooperation with development districts, chambers of commerce, and State and local governments.

In accordance with the terms described in the act, beginning September 30, 2000, the Tennessee Valley Authority began depositing \$1 million annually into the fund for five consecutive years, for a total of \$5 million. The Forest Service has allowed the principal balance to grow and much of the interest to compound, and LBL has now begun to use the interest earned on the fund for the purposes intended by Congress. This includes providing additional funding to further assist in the promotion and support of the successful school grant program for environmental education.

Authority

Land Between the Lakes Protection Act of 1998 (16 U.S.C. 460III-31) (P.L. 105-277, div. A, Sec. 101(e) [Title V, Sec. 531], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-317). This act establishes the LBL Trust fund. In accordance with Title V of the act, responsibility for the LBL National Recreation Area transferred from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Reforestation Trust Fund

Budget Line Item	Reforestation Trust Fund			
	(dollars in thousands)			
	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 President's Budget	Program Changes
Trust Funds				
Reforestation Trust Fund				
New Budget Authority	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	0
Program Level	31,769	32,000	27,000	-\$5,000
Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs)	158	158	158	0

Program Overview

A maximum of \$30 million is transferred to the Reforestation Trust Fund by the U.S. Treasury each fiscal year to reduce the backlog in reforestation and timber stand improvement work. Reforestation activities include site preparation for planting or seeding of the appropriate tree species, site preparation to encourage natural regeneration, and certification of acres naturally regenerated without the need of site preparation. In addition, as part of the reforestation activity, various treatments are applied to improve initial seedling survival rates. Benefits of reforestation include restoration of forest vegetation on areas impacted by wildfire, floods, and hurricanes; increased carbon sequestration capacity; establishment of resilient forest vegetation; and improved habitat diversity for many wildlife species. Timber stand improvement activities include release treatments through removal of competing vegetation; pre-commercial thinning to regulate stand density, composition and structure; pruning treatments that reduce ladder fuels, reduce the effects of pathogens (such as white pine blister rust) and improve future wood product quality; and fertilization treatments to maintain and improve soil productivity and enhance rapid stand development to improve carbon storage capacity. Benefits of timber stand improvement include improved forest health and productivity; hazardous fuel reductions; improved forest resiliency to the impacts of drought, insects and disease; and diversified wildlife habitat. In addition, timber stand improvement generates woody biomass that is available to meet renewable energy needs.

Authorities

Reforestation, Recreational Boating Safety and Facilities Act of 1980, Title III, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1606a(d)) P.L. 96-451. This act established the Reforestation Trust fund.

Special Exhibits**Biomass, Wood Products, and Wood Energy****Forest Service Funding for Biomass, Wood Products, Wood Energy, and the Wood Education and Resource Center***(dollars in thousands)*

Activity	Budget Line Item	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Biomass Production	Forest Products	\$4,250	\$5,000	\$4,250
Bioenergy & Biobased Products Research	Research and Development	11,924	11,757	10,165
Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC)	Forest Stewardship, Urban Forestry, Forest Health, State Fire Assistance and Hazardous Fuels***	960	960	0
Subtotal Biomass Production		17,134	17,717	14,415
Wood Innovations Program				
Geographically Target Wood Utilization	Hazardous Fuels	1,000	1,000	1,000
Wood Innovation Grants	Hazardous Fuels	8,346**	8,450	8,450
Other Market Development (Wood Products/Wood Energy)	Hazardous Fuels	654	550	5,550
Subtotal, Wood Innovation Program	Hazardous Fuels	10,000	10,000	15,000
Total		\$27,134	\$27,717	\$29,415

*This includes funding for the production of biomass from NFS lands and funding for wood supply assessments.

**Administered by Regions/Area with support from the Wood Education and Resource Center.

***A mix of funds is provided to the Wood Education and Resource Center to address hardwood industry issues related to the 35-state eastern hardwood region and to develop markets for underutilized hardwoods and softwoods in the region.

FY 2018

Forest Service's emphasis on biomass, wood products, and wood energy encourages market development for woody biomass. The work planned for FY 2018 is primarily structured around the Forest Service Wood Innovations Program. The agency will continue to support and develop wood utilization technologies and practices that effectively integrate biomass production into forest management activities. The following describes the work to be accomplished.

Biomass Production

In FY 2018 the National Forest System will continue to provide material for biomass markets as a by-product of our restoration work.

In FY 2016, the agency faced challenges such as decreased market demand for biomass in certain regions of the country. In particular, demand was down in California, which historically has been one of our top producing Regions. While market factors are subject to change, recent state legislation in California has the potential to increase demand for bioenergy. The National Forest System (NFS) will continue to work with State & Private Forestry, Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) and the Farm Service Agency Biomass Crop Assistance Program to grow markets and infrastructure for biomass production and utilization across the country.

Bioenergy and Biobased Products Research

The agency will continue to provide more accurate national and regional feedstock availability projections; models to assist in bioenergy facility site selection; sustainable management systems, options, and practices for forest bioenergy

feedstocks; logistics and decision support tools to improve treatment, harvest, and transport efficiency; integrated models of land use patterns and bioenergy markets; and life cycle analysis and assessment tools for forest bioenergy and bioproducts supply chains.

The agency will continue the development of wood-based biofuels, chemicals, and products that substitute for petroleum-based materials, including developing biomass deconstruction science and technology, conversion technologies for wood-based liquid fuels, including drop-in fuels, and science and technology for manufacturing chemicals and other co-products from biomass-to-energy conversion.

Wood Innovations Program

In 2014, the Forest Service established the Wood Innovations Program to strategically expand wood products and wood energy markets that support forest management and deliver economic and environmental benefits to communities. By providing technical assistance, funding, and high quality data, this work helps inform business decisions. For example, the Wood Innovations Program funds the nonprofit WoodWorks that provides free project assistance as well as education and resources related to the design of non-residential and multi-family wood buildings. Since the Forest Service started funding WoodWorks at the beginning of 2014, they have influenced and converted 1,200 projects to wood that were originally designed in traditional building materials, accounting for over \$783 million in incremental wood products sales. Additionally, the Forest Service and other USDA agencies collaborate with key wood energy sector partners and diverse stakeholders to provide funding and technical assistance under USDA's Wood Energy initiative. The Wood Innovations Grant program is a critical component of this initiative.

Much of this effort is funded through grants and cooperative agreements awarded annually through our Wood Innovations Grants to diverse organizations across the country, such as States, Tribes, businesses, local governments, and non-profits. The maximum for each Wood Innovation Grant is generally \$250,000 and all grantees must match at least 50 percent of the Forest Service requested funds. This competitive funding opportunity will continue in 2018.

Since 2013, 22 States have established Statewide Wood Energy Teams through Forest Service cooperative agreements to expand wood energy markets. In total, our agency has invested roughly \$5.2 million and States have contributed roughly \$6.8 million to support these teams for up to three years. This funding has leveraged substantial private investment, created local jobs, supported forest health priorities, and improved local economies through conversion of existing and new facilities to wood energy. Six States have also entered into cooperative agreements with the Forest Service to establish Statewide Wood Utilization Teams designed to expand traditional and innovative wood products. These teams have been extremely effective in identifying successful opportunities in the highest priority areas of each State. They provide technical assistance and seed money for projects, and also get projects ready for competitive funding through Wood Innovations, Rural Development, or other funding opportunities. In 2018, the agency expects continued enthusiasm by States and partners to advance wood energy and wood products markets.

The agency continues to expand the use of wood in the commercial building sector. Engineered wood products, such as cross-laminated timber (CLT), for commercial high rise buildings are opening extensive new markets for the conversion of relatively low-value small dimensional lumber into higher-value structural materials. This new market has the potential to produce significant benefits related to energy conservation and the reduction of costs for hazardous fuels reduction, forest restoration, and other forest treatments. This promising market stores carbon in long-lived building materials, reduces the amount of energy required for building construction, and generates a higher monetary value for wood. The agency anticipate a dramatic increase in the expansion of CLT use in commercial building construction in the United States.

Additional Wood Innovations activities:

- *Wood Innovations Grants: Expand Wood Energy and Wood Products Markets* - In 2017, the Forest Service will issue grants to expand wood energy and wood products markets in traditional and emerging sectors to support forest management needs on NFS and other forest lands. Preference will be given to projects that make use of wood generated from NFS and other forest lands with high wildfire risk or projects that support commercial building markets or other markets that use innovative wood products. The maximum for each award is generally \$250,000 and all grantees must match at least 50 percent of the Forest Service requested funds.

- *Geographically Target Wood Utilization* - This funding, in conjunction with geographically-focused hazardous fuels work, will support wood utilization to reduce treatment costs through technical assistance, grants, and cooperative agreements, if specific needs are identified.

Wood Education and Resource Center

The Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC) was started in 1999 when legislation was enacted authorizing the Forest Service to assume operation of the former Robert C. Byrd Hardwood Technology Center (RCBHTC) in Princeton, West Virginia. Under Forest Service management, WERC focuses on primary and secondary wood processing, woody biomass utilization using multidisciplinary approaches, efficient utilization of urban tree removals, partnerships to solve forest products related issues, as well as the following activities:

- maintaining and expanding a competitive hardwood industry that provides jobs and markets for local community needs;
- increasing communication, cooperation, and collaborative problem solving within the forest products industry;
- supporting woody biomass utilization for energy;
- advancing market development and utilization of trees affected by insects, diseases, and weather events, and
- supporting appropriate green building initiatives and carbon storage in wood products.

The WERC programs help maintain and improve wood industry productivity and competitiveness in a sustainable manner within the 35 States of the eastern hardwood region. Viable wood products markets enable sustainable forest management on private, State, and Federal lands. WERC staff includes a Biomass Coordinator position to provide leadership for woody biomass-to-energy efforts across the State & Private Forestry's Northeastern Area. The WERC's biomass coordination efforts have resulted in a partnership with several engineering consultants that provide preliminary assessments of energy system conversions. These are completed for schools, hospitals, office, and business facilities.

Past Performance

The Forest Service has a long history of success in encouraging the expansion of wood products and wood energy markets, but sees a more urgent need to support these goals. Selected accomplishments include the following:

- In FY 2016, Forest Service awarded over \$8.3 million in Wood Innovation Grants to stimulate widespread use of wood residues for renewable energy, wood products, and innovative commercial building materials to support management of NFS lands and other lands with significant forest restoration needs, especially those with elevated hazardous fuels conditions. These Federal funds leveraged over \$18 million in partner investments.
- The WERC plays a critical role in keeping forest-related businesses in business. In FY 2016, WERC was involved with 15 workshops or webinars primarily for industry, prepared or reviewed more than 30 woody biomass feasibility studies for facility owners, and administered the national Wood Innovations funding program.
- In FY 2016, the agency produced 2.13 million green tons of biomass from NFS lands for use in bio-energy production.
- In FY 2016, the Forest Service continued to help the Farm Services Agency implement the Biomass Crop Assistance Program, which provides eligible farmers, ranchers, and foresters with an incentive to harvest forest and agricultural residues and deliver them to qualified energy facilities. The program provided transportation subsidies to loggers and energy facilities for the removal and delivery of biomass for energy generation.
- The delivery of these residues advanced an important component of the restoration activities occurring on NFS lands.
- In FY 2016, Forest Service R&D scientists produced more than 103 publications and presentations advancing science and technology in biomass production and management systems, biofuels and bioproducts, and decision support and policy analysis.
- Forest Service R&D scientists are exploring the potential of nano-products from wood. Possible uses of these renewable products could include high-end compostable electronics, paint-on solar panels, strong and lightweight materials for airplanes and cars, and hundreds of other uses.

- Forest Service R&D scientists are working to develop methods to design cross-laminated timber (CLT) buildings to six stories and beyond that will withstand earthquakes.
- Forest Service R&D scientists cooperated with West Virginia University to enhance the competitiveness of the U.S. hardwood lumber industry by improving the accuracy of log internal defect detection and maximizing log value recovery.
- Forest Service R&D scientists analyzed timber salvaging in the Gulf State region after major hurricanes. Post-hurricane analysis leads to a better understanding of storm salvaging operations and increased salvaging efficiency.
- In its 'Waste-to-Wisdom' initiative, Forest Service R&D scientists are collaborating with 15 regional partners to assess the environmental viability of converting wood waste (i.e., post-harvest residues) into viable bioenergy products using two near-woods bioconversion technologies, briquetting and torrefaction.

California Tree Mortality

Background

This exhibit is not required by Congressional direction but is included to increase awareness of the tree mortality issue, which, thus far, has affected California the most, but spreading to other States.

Overview

Since 2010, more than 102 million drought-stressed trees have died across 7.7 million acres of California forests. More than half of those died last year alone. The greatest tree mortality has been found in the Stanislaus, Sierra and Sequoia National Forests and counties of the Southern Sierras (Kern, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Tulare, and Tuolumne), where low elevation pines (ponderosa, sugar, and pinyon) seem hardest hit, although many other species are impacted.

The Forest Service has made tree mortality response a top priority to address removal of hazard trees and reduce risk to communities. The agency is an active participant in the Governor's Tree Mortality Task Force.

Agency Priorities

The magnitude of the tree mortality requires the agency to prioritize treatments. In response, the Pacific Southwest Region developed a 3-phase strategy. Phase one uses a triage approach in which forests are removing dead and dying trees to help protect public and employee safety from falling trees and wildfire risk in high hazard areas near communities, in recreation sites, along roads, trails, and utility corridors. The second and third phase further address hazardous fuels conditions and incorporates restoration activities in the tree mortality areas. These last two phases are long-term, going out more than 10 years.

Agency Actions

1. Accomplishments as of January 30, 2017, on the Sequoia, Sierra, and Stanislaus National Forests

Cumulative MBF Felled	113,639
Cumulative Acres Treated	25,104
Acres in Progress	56,363
Cumulative Trees Felled	266,087

2. Hazard mitigation completed on values at risk:

- 40 communities with Hazard Tree Mitigation
- 1,375 acres of Fuel Breaks
- 81 miles of Powerlines
- 139 Recreation Sites
- 398 miles of Road
- 46 miles of Trail

Weather and limited accessibility during the winter of 2016/2017 slowed some of the hazardous mitigation work.

Historic and Current Funding

1. Fiscal Year 2016 – The agency redirected \$43 million to remove dead and dying trees to help protect public and employee safety from falling trees and wildfire risk in high hazard areas near communities, in recreation sites, along roads, trails, and utility corridors. The redirection required the forests to put many ongoing green timber or other forest restoration work on hold.
2. Fiscal Year 2017 – The agency will direct about \$32 million to continue to address dead tree removal in and

around communities, recreation sites, along roads, trails, and other values at risk. This includes forest operating funds of more than \$14 million and an additional \$18 million prioritized from the agency for tree mortality work in California.

3. Fiscal Year 2018 – There are currently another 95,000 NEPA-ready acres in the high-hazard areas on the Sequoia, Sierra, and Stanislaus National Forests that will be completed as additional funding is identified. In general, treatments cost from \$1,000 to \$2,000 an acre depending on proximity to infrastructure.

Chief's Reserve Fund

Background

This exhibit is required by P.L. 109-54, House Report 109-80, page 151, Administrative Provisions, which directed:

The Committee also requests that future budget justification displays on this fund include a complete presentation of spending from the fund during the most recent complete fiscal year, with a brief explanation why the uses were indeed important, unanticipated, and appropriate.

Overview

The Chief's Reserve Fund (CRF) is managed by the Chief's Office to fund emergencies or unforeseen events that occur throughout the fiscal year. This reserve fund allows units to respond quickly to unplanned urgent work without impacting the planned program of work.

FY 2018 Program

At the Chief's discretion, funds from this reserve are available for unplanned and/or emergency circumstances. Requests are evaluated against criteria including the urgent nature of the event, relevance of proposed use to priorities, other funding source considerations, and risks from being unfunded. Requests must be for work or projects exceeding \$25,000. Initial fund mixes are determined at the beginning of the fiscal year, but may be remixed during the year to meet unanticipated needs. Funds are only spent in accordance with the purposes for which they were appropriated. Unused funds are distributed to the Regions, Stations, and Northeastern Area as carryover in the following year.

FY 2015 to FY 2018 Funding
(dollars in thousands)

FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Actual	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
\$6,318	\$1,403	\$6,318	\$6,318

Past Performance

In FY 2016, the CRF allocation was reduced to increase availability of funding as a part of initial allocations, which included funding for national priorities identified by agency leadership. This strategy is consistent with the leadership commitment to identify priorities early and provide authority to support prompt obligation of balances.

A reduced amount, \$1.4 million, was held in the CRF to support unplanned projects and provide additional funding for others. Total program amounts assessed in FY 2016 are illustrated in the table below.

FY 2016 Program Amounts
(dollars in thousands)

FY 2016 Program	Approved
Preparedness	\$478
Suppression	406
Pool	519
Total	\$1,403

Projects or initiatives funded by the Chief's Reserve Fund in FY 2016 include:

Presidential Management Fellows Program (\$40,000)

The Chief's initiative to recruit and attract leaders for the future, the Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) program funded and authorized up to nine slots at the national level. Units selected by the PMF Advisory Board are reimbursed approximately 50 percent of the fellow's salary and related costs, up to \$40,000 per year beginning the first full fiscal year after the fellow is hired. An additional PMF was identified in 2016 bringing the number of slots authorized to 10.

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (OASCR) Funding (\$479,743)

As of January 2013, OASCR assumed all USDA Equal Employment Opportunity investigation responsibilities. Agencies receive a quarterly accounting report of their investigation cost expenditures and adjustments are made based on the actual number of complaints filed. Originally, the Forest Service supported salary for four FTEs; however, the methodologies changed in FY 2015 where all USDA agencies support the Employee Investigations Division Staff. As a result, the FY 2016 salary support costs to Forest Service increased by \$479,743. The Chief Reserve Fund provided funding to support the OASCR increase.

Cost Pool Totals (both Direct and Indirect)

Background

This exhibit is required by P.L. 107-63, 115 Stat. 452, as follows:

The Forest Service shall fund indirect expenses, that are expenses not directly related to specific programs or to the accomplishment of specific work on-the-ground, from any funds available to the Forest Service: Provided, that the Forest Service shall implement and adhere to the definitions of indirect expenditures established pursuant to Public Law 105-277 on a nationwide basis without flexibility for modification by any organizational level except the Washington Office, and when changed by the Washington Office, such changes in definition shall be reported in budget requests submitted by the Forest Service: Provided further, that the Forest Service shall provide in all future budget justifications, planned indirect expenditures in accordance with the definitions, summarized and displayed to the Regional, Station, Area, and detached unit office level. The justification shall display the estimated source and amount of indirect expenditures, by expanded budget line item, of funds in the agency's annual budget justification. The display shall include appropriated funds and the Knutson-Vandenberg, Brush Disposal, Cooperative Work-Other, and Salvage Sale funds. Changes between estimated and actual indirect expenditures shall be reported in subsequent budget justifications.

Overview

Cost pool expenses support every Forest Service employee at every level of the agency. Cost pools are a financial management tool. The purpose is to allocate funding for items directly related to delivery of Forest Service programs that are not directly related to a specific program. Cost pools fund line officers' salaries (e.g. District Rangers) and expenses, administrative support, information technology, human resources, computers, telephones, rent, utilities, and other common services.

The Forest Service receives appropriations by program and does not receive a general administration or management appropriation. Cost pools are not a source for funding, but are a mechanism to charge expenses that cannot reasonably be charged directly to a single program. The cost pools are designed to maintain accurate reporting of the true costs by program, by having each program contribute into the cost pools an amount based on its share of indirect, support, and common services charges.

Appropriate application of cost pools allows the Forest Service to accurately reflect the cost of doing business in compliance with the federal financial reporting standards articulated by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB). Accurately reflecting the true cost of doing business improves the government's ability to account for public funds, provides information for evaluating agency costs, accomplishments, and impacts of accomplishments, and provides a basis to assess agency financial systems and controls.

Direct and Indirect Costs

Forest Service definitions of direct and indirect costs are consistent with FASAB Statement #4. The agency published the definitions in the FY 2000 Budget Justification. The Department of Agriculture Chief Financial Officer and the Office of Management and Budget cleared, and the Government Accountability Office, United States Department of Commerce's Office of Inspector General and Office of General Counsel, and the Department of Justice reviewed the definitions prior to publishing.

Direct Costs

Direct costs are specifically identified with the delivery of a program or a program's accomplishments. Direct costs include expenses associated with employees working directly on the production of an output. Program management is an integral cost of the production of an output and therefore is included as a direct cost. Direct costs might also include costs not associated with employees involved in the production of output(s), such as office and other facility space, computer equipment, and utilities, as well as materials, supplies, and equipment. Direct costs are generally charged directly to a single primary purpose budget line item.

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are costs that are necessary for the operation of the Forest Service as an organization but are not traceable to any specific outputs. These include Legislative and Public Communication, Ongoing Business Services, and Common Services (cost pools 3, 4, and the indirect portion of cost pool 5).

Cost Pools

For management and tracking purposes, categories of similar expenses are combined into five cost pools. Cost pools 1 and 2 track those expenses defined as direct costs, cost pools 3 and 4 include those expenses classified as indirect costs, and cost pool 5 includes both indirect and direct components.

The terms cost pool 6 and cost pool 7 have been previously used to describe the pooled costs for Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) and Unemployment Compensation Insurance (UCI) respectively. Please see the section on Other Pooled Costs below for more details.

There is no cost pool 8.

Cost pool 9 collects facilities maintenance assessment funds and assesses Forest Service programs separately from pools 1 through 5.

In addition to being a cost allocation mechanism, cost pools serve as an accounting tool, providing the Forest Service with financial data on categories of similar expenses. This permits the Forest Service to plan and manage support, indirect, and direct costs at different levels of the organization. A description of these pools and their associated costs are listed below.

Cost Pool 1 - General Management

This cost pool includes salaries, associated employee benefits, and related costs for general line managers and officers (including secretarial staff) at the Washington Office (WO), Regions/Stations/Area (R/S/A), national forest, and ranger district levels. In addition, union officials, civil rights positions, and safety officers are included in Cost Pool 1 to show their direct connection and link to line management. Related costs include uniforms, travel, transfer of station, vehicles, cell phones for the positions that charge to this cost pool, specialized supplies and equipment, and discretionary expenses associated with these positions. Cost Pool 1 consists entirely of direct costs and is based on total Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) charged in the previous 12 months.

Cost Pool 2 - Direct Project Approved Activities

This cost pool includes salaries, benefits, and related costs for a limited set of nationally designated cross-cutting projects, currently limited to Conservation Education, Tribal Relations, Freedom of Information Act, Resource Advisory Council administration, and Grey Towers. Cost Pool 2 consists entirely of direct costs. It is based on total FTEs charged in the previous 12 months.

Cost Pool 3 - Legislative and Public Communications

This cost pool includes salaries, associated employee benefits, and related costs for public affairs, and legislative liaisons at the WO, R/S/A, national forest, and ranger district levels. Related costs include uniforms, travel, transfer of station, vehicles, cell phones for the positions that charge to this cost pool, specialized supplies and equipment, and discretionary expenses associated with these positions. Cost Pool 3 consists entirely of indirect costs and is based on total FTEs charged in the previous 12 months.

Cost Pool 4 - Ongoing Business Services

Cost Pool 4 includes salaries, associated employee benefits, and related costs for business operations at the WO, regions, stations, national forest, and ranger district levels. Business operations include budget, finance, acquisition, human capital management, procurement, grants and agreements, general receptionists, and information systems management. Cost Pool 4 consists entirely of indirect costs and is based on total FTEs charged in the previous 12 months.

Cost Pool 5 - Common Services

This cost pool generally includes rent, utilities, corporate communications, equipment, supplies, radios, and corporate computer and phone related expenses for all employees. Cost Pool 5 consists of both indirect and direct pool costs. The distribution of costs in pool 5 is based on FTEs for permanent employees only; the division between direct and indirect costs is based on the ratio of direct to indirect employees. For example, if the common services for a unit with 100 employees, consisting of 80 direct and 20 indirect, is \$500,000, then \$400,000 of these costs would be direct and \$100,000 would be indirect.

Cost Pool 9 - Facilities Maintenance Assessment Fund

This cost pool contains the Facilities Maintenance Assessment Fund. This is a direct cost pool used to allocate facilities maintenance work funded by assessing each R/S/A based on gross square foot of facilities. These charges are then allocated by BLI using the same basis as Cost Pool 5 in compliance with the FY 2006 Appropriations Act and accompanying conference report language. Refer to the Facilities Maintenance Assessment Special Exhibit for more information.

Other Pooled Costs

OWCP and UCI do not assess Forest Service programs but are for identifying funds for payments required to Department of Labor. Unlike cost pools 1-5 and 9, these costs are charged directly to a program and then pooled to make required payments out of a single BLI. These pooled costs are used as methods of payment, and are not mechanisms to allocate costs.

Cost Allocations

The Forest Service allocates indirect and direct pool costs among programs through the cost allocation process, which assesses each Forest Service budget line item a certain percentage of total cost pool expenses. Cost pools are generally allocated using direct labor hours (DLH). DLH are converted to FTEs; 1 FTE = 2,096 DLHs (the DLH number varies depending on the year). For cost pools 1 to 4, DLHs are used for all employees charging to direct costs (all employees includes those holding permanent, temporary, intermittent, and other types of positions).

This approach for Cost Pools 1 to 4 is used because these costs generally reflect the entire organization. For Cost Pools 5 and 9, only permanent employees DLHs are used, because these costs (rent, communication, utilities, etc.) are driven primarily by the need to support the permanent workforce. Planning estimates for OWCP and UCI are based on actual past cases. Because of their nature, the FTEs associated with supplemental, transfer, and emergency funds are dropped from the cost pools and are not used in calculating indirect costs.

The Forest Service uses cost allocation to charge expenses back to a single budget line item. Cost allocation is used for expenses that:

- are indirect (e.g., Cost Pools 3 and 4),
- simultaneously support multiple programs in a way that cannot be efficiently charged directly to a budget line item (BLI) (e.g., Cost Pools 1 and 2),
- involve multiple transactions that need to be summarized for payment purposes (e.g., OWCP and UCI) and;
- are otherwise directed by congressional or administrative action (e.g., Cost Pool 9).

Cost allocation compliance review is performed to determine the consistency in which the field organization and the WO headquarters implement cost pool policy and to identify areas for improvement. The agency uses the information gathered from the reviews to improve the cost allocation process and update cost allocation directions for the following fiscal year.

FY 2018 Program Changes

The FY 2018 President's Budget proposes a ceiling of \$880 million for cost pool expenses. This level of cost pool funding represents a \$77 million decrease from FY 2017 levels.

FY 2016 to FY 2018 Cost Pool (1-5) Assessments
(dollars in thousands)

Budget Line Item		FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Cost Pool Assessment		\$957,000	\$957,000	\$880,000
Percent of Total Forest Service Budget		15.6%	15.6%	16.9%

Forest Service Cost Pool Exhibits

In FY 2018, the Forest Service is estimating that cost pools will be \$880,000. For an estimate of FY 2018 Total Cost Pool 1-5 Assessments by Budget Line Item, see Exhibit 1.

For a comparison of FY 2016 Planned and Actual Cost Pool 1-5 Assessments and FY 2017 Estimated Cost Pool 1-5 Assessments by Budget Line Item, see Exhibit 2.

For a display of Cost Pool Actuals for FY 2015 and FY 2016 by Pool and Region, see Exhibit 3.

Exhibit 1

Estimate of FY 2018 Total Cost Pool 1-5 Assessments by Budget Line Item

(dollars in thousands)

Budget Line Item	FY 2018 President's Budget	Estimated Total Cost Pool Assessments by BLI	Cost Pool Assessments as Percent of BLI	Amount Assessed as Percent of Total Cost Pools
Forest and Rangeland Research	\$259,000	\$35,830	13.8%	4.1%
Total Research	\$259,000	\$35,830	13.8%	4.1%
Forest Health Fed Lands	\$54,205	\$9,545	17.6%	1.1%
Forest Health Coop Lands	36,185	2,536	7.0%	0.3%
Forest Stewardship	20,500	1,660	8.1%	0.2%
Forest Legacy	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Urban and Community Forestry	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
International Forestry	7,120	784	11.0%	0.1%
Total State and Private Forestry	\$118,010	\$14,525	12.3%	1.7%
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Inventory and Monitoring	132,000	27,944	21.2%	3.2%
Land Management Planning	33,000	6,917	21.0%	0.8%
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	252,880	78,393	31.0%	8.9%
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Management	125,000	31,208	25.0%	3.5%
Grazing Management	50,600	14,802	29.3%	1.7%
Forest Products	359,121	98,040	27.3%	11.1%
Vegetation & Watershed Management	174,400	43,143	24.7%	4.9%
Hazardous Fuels	354,288	66,151	18.7%	7.5%
Minerals and Geology Management	68,000	15,678	23.1%	1.8%
Landownership Management	69,000	17,431	25.3%	2.0%
Law Enforcement Operations	129,153	18,081	14.0%	2.1%
Total National Forest System	\$1,747,442	\$417,788	23.9%	47.5%
Preparedness	\$1,339,620	\$336,000	25.1%	38.2%
Suppression	1,056,818	21,682	2.1%	2.5%
State Fire Assistance	69,400	1,661	2.4%	0.2%
Total Wildland Fire	\$2,465,838	\$359,343	14.6%	40.8%
Facilities	\$11,750	\$2,820	24.0%	0.3%
Roads	75,243	15,801	21.0%	1.8%
Trails	12,700	3,683	29.0%	0.4%
Legacy Roads & Trails	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$99,693	\$22,304	22.4%	2.5%
Land Acquisition	\$7,000	\$210	3.0%	0.0%
Total Land Acquisition	\$7,000	\$210	3.0%	0.0%
Brush Disposal	\$16,000	\$2,227	13.9%	0.3%
Timber Salvage Sales	30,000	\$9,998	33.3%	1.1%
Cooperative Work, Knutson-Vandenburg Trust Fund	71,000	\$12,045	17.0%	1.4%
Reforestation Trust Fund	27,000	\$5,730	19.1%	0.7%
Total Permanent and Trust Funds	\$144,000	\$30,000	20.4%	3.4%
Total Assessed BLI's	\$4,843,983	\$880,000	18.2%	100.0%
TOTAL FOREST SERVICE	\$5,198,893	\$880,000	16.9%	100.0%

Only includes appropriations (BLIs) which will be assessed for cost pools 1-5 in FY 2018.

Supplemental, emergency, transfer, or Payments to States funds are not assessed for cost pools 1-5.

Exhibit 2

**Comparison of FY 2016 Planned and Actual Total Cost Pool Assessments 1-5 and
FY 2017 Estimated Cost Pool 1-5 Assessments by Budget Line Item**
(dollars in thousands)

Budget Line Item		FY 2016 Planned			FY2016 Actual			FY 2017 Planned			
		FY 2016 Enacted Budget	Estimated Cost Pools 1-5	Cost Pools as a Percent of BLI	FY 2016 Actual Cost Pools 1-5	Cost Pools as a Percent of BLI	Percent of Total FS Cost Pools 1-5	FY 2017 Annualized CR	Estimated Cost Pools 1-5	Cost Pools as a Percent of BLI	Percent of Total FS Cost Pools 1-5
Fund	Prog										
Forest and Rangeland Research	FRRE	\$291,000	\$39,237	13.5%	\$39,170	13.5%	4.1%	\$290,447	\$39,237	13.5%	4.1%
Total Research		\$291,000	\$39,237	13.5%	\$39,170	13.5%	4.1%	\$290,447	\$39,237	13.5%	4.1%
Forest Health Fed Lands	SPFH	\$58,922	\$9,570	16.2%	\$9,554	16.2%	1.0%	\$58,810	\$10,527	17.9%	1.1%
Forest Health Coop Lands	SPCH	40,678	4,785	11.8%	\$4,777	11.7%	0.5%	40,601	2,871	7.1%	0.3%
Forest Stewardship	SPST	23,036	1,914	8.3%	\$1,911	8.3%	0.2%	22,992	1,914	8.3%	0.2%
Forest Legacy	LGCY	62,347	957	1.5%	\$955	1.5%	0.1%	62,229	957	1.5%	0.1%
Urban and Community Forestry	SPUF	28,040	1,914	6.8%	\$1,911	6.8%	0.2%	27,987	1,914	6.8%	0.2%
International Forestry	SPIF	8,000	957	12.0%	\$955	11.9%	0.1%	7,985	957	12.0%	0.1%
Total State & Priv Forestry		\$221,023	\$20,097	9.1%	\$20,063	9.1%	2.1%	\$220,604	\$19,140	8.7%	2.0%
Integrated Resource Restoration	NFRR	\$186,244	\$27,753	14.9%	\$27,705	14.9%	2.9%	\$185,890	\$26,796	14.4%	2.8%
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	CFLN	40,000	11,484	28.7%	\$11,464	28.7%	1.2%	39,924	9,570	24.0%	1.0%
Inventory and Monitoring	NFIM	147,998	29,667	20.0%	\$29,616	20.0%	3.1%	147,717	30,624	20.7%	3.2%
Land Management Planning	NFPN	36,998	9,570	25.9%	\$9,554	25.8%	1.0%	36,928	7,656	20.7%	0.8%
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	NFRW	261,719	81,345	31.1%	\$81,206	31.0%	8.5%	261,222	81,345	31.1%	8.5%
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management	NFWF	109,035	29,667	27.2%	\$29,616	27.2%	3.1%	109,035	29,667	27.2%	3.1%
Grazing Management	NFRG	56,856	16,269	28.6%	\$16,241	28.6%	1.7%	56,748	16,269	28.7%	1.7%
Forest Products	NFTM	294,245	93,786	31.9%	\$93,626	31.8%	9.8%	294,245	89,958	30.6%	9.4%
Vegetation and Watershed Management	NFVW	134,206	33,495	25.0%	\$33,438	24.9%	3.5%	134,206	32,538	24.2%	3.4%
Minerals and Geology Management	NFMG	76,423	18,183	23.8%	\$18,152	23.8%	1.9%	76,278	17,226	22.6%	1.8%
Landownership Management	NFLM	77,730	21,054	27.1%	\$21,018	27.0%	2.2%	77,582	19,140	24.7%	2.0%
Law Enforcement Operations	NFLE	126,653	18,183	14.4%	\$18,152	14.3%	1.9%	126,412	17,226	13.6%	1.8%
Total Nat. Forest System		\$1,548,107	\$390,456	25.2%	\$389,788	25.2%	40.8%	\$1,546,187	\$378,015	24.4%	39.5%
Preparedness	WFPR	\$1,082,620	\$251,691	23.2%	\$251,261	23.2%	26.3%	\$1,080,563	\$243,078	22.5%	25.4%
Suppression	WFSU	811,000	80,388	9.9%	\$80,251	9.9%	8.4%	809,459	101,442	12.5%	10.6%
Hazardous Fuels Management	WFHF	351,000	63,162	18.0%	\$63,054	18.0%	6.6%	351,000	68,904	19.6%	7.2%
State Fire Assistance	WFCF	78,000	1,914	2.5%	\$1,911	2.5%	0.2%	77,852	1,914	2.5%	0.2%
Total Wildland Fire		\$2,322,620	\$397,155	17.1%	\$396,477	17.1%	41.5%	\$2,318,874	\$415,338	17.9%	43.4%
Facilities	CMFC	\$71,390	\$17,226	24.1%	\$17,196	24.1%	1.8%	\$71,254	\$15,312	21.5%	1.6%
Roads	CMRD	172,094	37,323	21.7%	\$37,259	21.7%	3.9%	171,767	36,366	21.2%	3.8%
Trails	CMIL	77,530	22,968	29.6%	\$22,929	29.6%	2.4%	77,383	22,968	29.7%	2.4%
Legacy Roads and Trails	CMLG	25,257	2,871	11.4%	\$2,866	11.3%	0.3%	25,257	2,871	0.0%	0.3%
Total Capital Improve & Maint		\$346,271	\$80,388	23.2%	\$80,250	23.2%	8.4%	\$345,661	\$77,517	22.4%	8.1%
Land Acquisition	LALW	\$63,435	\$1,914	3.0%	\$1,911	3.0%	0.2%	\$63,314	\$1,914	3.0%	0.2%
Total Land Acquisition		\$63,435	\$1,914	3.0%	\$1,911	3.0%	0.2%	\$63,314	\$1,914	3.0%	0.2%
Brush Disposal	BDBD	\$12,048	\$2,871	23.8%	\$2,866	23.8%	0.3%	\$12,000	\$1,914	16.0%	0.2%
Timber Salvage Sales	SSSS	31,364	7,656	24.4%	\$7,643	24.4%	0.8%	30,000	8,613	28.7%	0.9%
Cooperative Work, Knutson-Vandenburg Trust Fund	CWKV	69,739	12,441	17.8%	\$12,420	17.8%	1.3%	65,900	9,570	14.5%	1.0%
Reforestation Trust Fund	RIRT	30,000	4,785	16.0%	\$4,777	15.9%	0.5%	30,000	5,742	19.1%	0.6%
Total Permanent and Trust Funds		\$143,151	\$27,753	19.4%	\$27,706	19.4%	2.9%	\$137,900	\$25,839	18.7%	2.7%
Total Assessed BLI's		\$4,935,607	\$957,000	19.4%	\$955,365	19.4%	100.0%	\$4,922,987	\$957,000	19.4%	100.0%
TOTAL FOREST SERVICE		\$6,122,386	\$957,000	15.6%	\$955,365	15.6%	100.0%	\$6,122,386	\$957,000	15.6%	100.0%

Only includes appropriations (BLIs) which were assessed for cost pools 1-5.

Supplemental, emergency, transfer, or Payments to States funds are not assessed for cost pools 1-5.

Displays BLI's after transfers for the Integrated Resource Restoration pilot.

Exhibit 3

Cost Pool Expenditures for FY 2015 and FY 2016 by Pool and Region
(dollars in thousands)

Cost Pool		FY 2015	FY 2016
Cost Pool 1	General Management	\$162,176	\$161,720
Cost Pool 2	Direct Project Approved Activities	13,503	12,745
Cost Pool 3	Legislative and Public Communications	32,937	33,233
Cost Pool 4	Ongoing Business Services	345,840	354,833
Cost Pool 5	Common Services	390,671	392,834
TOTAL COST POOL EXPENDITURES		\$945,127	\$955,365

Region/Station/Area		FY 2015	FY 2016
Region 1	Northern	\$41,515	\$39,778
Region 2	Rocky Mountain	36,509	34,886
Region 3	Southwestern	41,204	39,138
Region 4	Intermountain	41,355	38,446
Region 5	Pacific Southwest	64,050	58,091
Region 6	Pacific Northwest	70,718	68,000
Region 8	Southern	44,833	42,505
Region 9	Eastern	38,324	36,596
Region 10	Alaska	16,607	15,983
Region 11	Forest Products Lab	0	20
Region 12	International Institute of Tropical Forestry	1,407	1,239
Region 13	Washington Office-HQ	71,968	77,734
Region 14	Chief's Reserve	0	0
Region 15	National Operations	105,574	142,926
Region 17	Accounting Adjustments	0	0
Region 22	Rocky Mountain Research Station	0	78
Region 24	Northern Research Station	0	642
Region 25	Central Business Services	369,372	358,036
Region 26	Pacific Northwest Research Station	213	292
Region 27	Pacific Southwest Research Station	0	26
Region 33	Southern Research Station	0	112
Region 42	Northeastern Area	1,478	837
TOTAL COST POOL EXPENDITURES		\$945,127	\$955,365

Region 13 Washington Office –HQ funds support staff, programs, operations, and facilities of the National Headquarters office located in Washington, D.C. and units considered attached to the National Headquarters and includes the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC); NIFC Aircraft Working Capital Fund; Geospatial- Salt Lake City; the National Advisory Resource Technical Center; the Chief's Office; Washington Office Operations and Common Services; Washington Office National Forest System, State and Private Forestry, and Research; International Forestry; Chief Financial Officer; Law Enforcement and Investigations; San Dimas Technology and Development Center; Missoula Technology and Development Center; and Working Capital Fund.

Region 15 National Operations funds are held and allocated at the national level and support work and programs nationwide such as FLAME, Law Enforcement, and portions of other funds including USDA Working Capital Fund National Services, National Operations, Budget and Finance Service Wide Cost Pools, Grey Towers, Utilities and Telecommunication Services, Facilities Maintenance Cost Pool, and other Service Wide Cost Pools.

Region 25 Central Business Services include Albuquerque Service Center (ASC) Budget & Finance, Human Resources, Chief Information Officer, ASC Leases, and Acquisition Management Support for IT & Fire.

Equal Access to Justice Act

Background

This special exhibit is included to address requirements of House Report 112-151 page 8; Conference Report 112-331, page 1046, which directed:

Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) Fee Payments - The Committee has learned that the Forest Service does not comprehensively track EAJA fee payments, identify the funds used to pay EAJA fees, nor routinely make this information publicly available. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Forest Service to provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and make publicly available, and with each Agency's annual budget submission thereafter, the following information: detailed reports on the amount of program funds used; the names of the fee recipients; the names of the Federal judges; the disposition of the applications (including any appeals of action taken on the applications); and the hourly rates of attorneys and expert witnesses stated in the applications that was awarded, for all EAJA fee payments awarded as a result of litigation against the Forest Service, or their respective employees. The report shall also include the information listed above for litigation relating to the Endangered Species Act and the amounts, outside of EAJA awards, paid in settlement for all litigation, regardless of the statute litigated.

Overview

The Equal Access to Justice Act was enacted in 1980 to provide individuals, small businesses and non-profit organizations with the means to ensure Federal agencies make their decisions transparent and in accordance with law. Since 2009, the Forest Service has tracked the payment of both EAJA and other attorney's fees.

FY 2011 through FY 2016 Funding and Reporting

In FY 2012, the Forest Service provided EAJA information to the Government Accountability Office (GAO), in response to a request, on EAJA case names and docket/court number, the name of the award recipient, the amount of program funds used, and dates paid. The final EAJA report to Congress is available on the internet at the following link:

http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/requests/7105962_Equal%20Access%20to%20Justice%20Act_Letters%20and%20Report.pdf

Subsequent FY 2016 EAJA information is reported in Table 1 of this Special Exhibit.

The Forest Service does not track and therefore cannot report on the following information:

- the Federal judges making the awards,
- the disposition of the applications for EAJA fees (including any appeals of action taken on the applications), and
- the hourly rates of the attorneys and expert witnesses stated in the applications for which an award was made.

Table 1. Forest Service Equal Access to Justice Act Statistics for FY 2011 through FY 2016

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
12/21/2010	CV 1:09-cv-00003-JWS, D. AK	Tongass Conservation Society, Sierra Club v. Forrest Cole Tongass NF, USFS, USDA	Orion North Reoffer timber sale, Tongass NF	Earthjustice	12/28/2010	Forest Products	\$53,000
1/13/2011	08-01185-MHP, D. N Cal	California Resources Agency v. USDA	Inventoried Roadless Areas, CA NFs	Earthjustice	2/9/2011	Land Management Planning	250,000
3/10/2011	CV-04-127-M-DWM, D. Mont	Native Ecosystems Inc. v. Tidwell	Grazing Permits, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF	Alliance for the Wild Rockies	3/11/2011	Grazing Management	85,000
3/11/2011	08-01927 CW, D. N Cal	Citizens for Better Forestry v. USDA	National Forest Management Act	Western Environmental Law Center	3/17/2011	Land Management Planning	170,047
3/11/2011	08-01927 CW, D. N Cal	Citizens for Better Forestry v. USDA	National Forest Management Act	Earthjustice	3/17/2011	Land Management Planning	251,312
4/6/2011	10-cv-01514-JDB	Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility v. USDA, USFS		Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility	4/8/2011	Cost Pools	1,848
4/25/2011	CV 08-43-M-DWM	Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics v. USFS and National Marine Fisheries Service		Bechtold Law Firm PLLC	4/25/2011	Wildland Fire Suppression	95,000
5/2/2011	CV 07-1043-JB-ACT, D. NM	Wildearth Guardians v. USFS, New Mexico Cattle Growers Association	Livestock grazing, Gila NF	Wildearth Guardians	5/12/2011	Grazing Management	27,500
5/25/2011	CV 09-164-N-EJL, D. ID	The Lands Council v. Leslie Weldon Region 1, Ranotta MaNair Idaho Panhandle NF, USFS	Bussel 484, Idaho Panhandle NF	Public Interest Defense	6/9/2011	Forest Products	50,064
5/26/2011	5:08-CV-00091-TBR	Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics v. USFS	Continued Maintenance of Open Lands, Land Between the Lakes	Bechtold Law Firm PLLC	5/26/2011	Land Between the Lakes Management Fund	29,400
6/13/2011	09-cv-00160-DWM	Alliance for the Wild Rockies v. Paul Bradford Kootenai NF	Grizzly Vegetation and Transportation Management Project	Public Interest Defense	6/16/2011	Timber Salvage Sales	28,000
6/20/2011	05-107M (DWM)	Rock Creek Alliance v. USFS	2001 EIS	Western Mining Action Project	6/22/2011	Minerals & Geology Management	186,500

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
7/25/2011	08-1067-JCC	Conservation Northwest v. Harris Sherman and D.R. Johnson Lumber Co.	EIS Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines, 2007 Supplement	Western Environmental Law Center	7/27/2011	Forest Products	155,555
9/8/2011	CV F 09-392 LJO	Sequoia Forestkeeper v. USFS	Special Use Permit to Robert Sellers and Quarter Circle Five Ranch	Paul Hastings LLP	9/13/2011	Landownership Management	74,640
9/8/2011	CV F 09-392 LJO	Sequoia Forestkeeper v. USFS	Special Use Permit to Robert Sellers and Quarter Circle Five Ranch	Rene Voss	9/13/2011	Landownership Management	13,800
Subtotal FY 2011							\$1,471,666

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
10/6/2011	10-cv-01514-JDB	Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility v. USDA, USFS		Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility	10/11/2011	Cost Pools	\$1,848
1/23/2012	09-cv-1500-SU	Hells Canyon Preservation Council v. USFS	Sled Springs Off Highway Vehicle Trail System and Road Management Plan	Hells Canyon Preservation Council	1/27/2012	Recreation, Wilderness, & Wild and Scenic Rivers	79,874
1/27/2012	10-cv-6337-TC	Cascadia Wildlands v. USFS		Daniel Kruse	1/30/2012	Forest Products	56,500
2/15/2012	2:10-cv-02830-WBS	Center for Biological Diversity v. Mike Crawley, USFS	Motor vehicle use on Bridgeport Ranger District	Center for Biological Diversity	2/16/2012	Roads	9,000
3/6/2012	CV 09-107-M	Alliance for the Wild Rockies v. Leslie Weldon, USFS	Rat Creek Salvage	Western Environmental Law Center	3/6/2012	Integrated Resource Restoration	53,000
5/29/2012	CV 07-39-M-DWM	Montana Wilderness Association v. Vicki Christiansen, USFS		Earthjustice	6/4/2012	Recreation, Wilderness, & Wild and Scenic Rivers	137,000
6/14/2012	CV 08-92-DWM	Smith Creek		Bechtold Law Firm	6/19/2012	Integrated Resource Restoration	48,489
7/5/2012	3:09-CV-03048	Wilderness Society v. US DOI	West-Wide Energy Corridors	Earthjustice	7/5/2012	Landownership Management	10,000
8/8/2012	10-CV-00026	Idaho Conservation League and The Wilderness Society v. Frank Guzman and USFS	Travel Management Plan for the Salmo-Challis NF	Earthjustice	8/10/2012	Integrated Resource Restoration	90,000

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
8/22/2012	11-VC-830-RCC	Defenders of Wildlife v. USFS	Hardshell Project	Defenders of Wildlife	8/28/2012	Minerals and Geology Management	10,500
9/18/2012	09-CV-131 CW	Sierra Club v. USFS	Ogden Ranger District's Motorized Travel Plan	Western Wildlife Conservancy	9/18/2012	Recreation, Wilderness, & Wild and Scenic Rivers	69,027
Subtotal FY 2012							\$565,237

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
10/11/2012	No.10-2039-WHA	CV-10-2039	Orleans Community Fuels Reduction (OCFR) & Forest Health	Marianne Dugan	10/11/2012	Hazardous Fuels	\$30,000
1/7/2013	CV-11-125-M-DWM	Friends of the Wild SWAN	Colt Summit NEPA Litigation	Western Environmental Law	1/18/2013	Land Management Planning	40,000
2/12/2013	12-CV-286-BLW	Advocates for the West Inc.		Advocates for the West Inc.	2/12/2013	Wildlife & Fish Management	52,000
2/28/2013	CV-01477-GEB-CMK	Californians for Alternatives to Toxics	Paiute Cutthroat Trout Restoration	Western Environmental Law	3/1/2013	Wildlife & Fish Management	8,000
2/28/2013	CV 11-99-M-DWM	Native Ecosystems		Rebecca Smith	3/1/2013	Wildlife & Fish Management	33,279
2/28/2013	CV 11-99-M-DWM	Native Ecosystems		Tim Berchtold	3/1/2013	Wildlife & Fish Management	13,598
3/1/2013	CV-1212-CL	Oregon Natural Desert Assoc.	Environment & Natural Resources	Advocates for the West Inc.	3/1/2013	Wildlife & Fish Management	137,000
5/9/2013	CV-00048-WJM	National Ski Areas Assn. Inc.	Natural Resources & Environment	Ducker Montgomery Lewis /Bess, Williams & Weese, P.C.	5/9/2013	Recreation, Wilderness, & Wild and Scenic Rivers	125,000
5/23/2013	10-CV-01797-JCC	Wilderness Watch	Glacier Peak Wilderness Are. Green Mountain Lookout.	Wilderness Watch	5/24/2013	Facilities	70,804
5/23/2013	12-CV-01757-TC	Central Oregon LandWatch	Bend Waterpipe Deschutes NF	Central Oregon LandWatch	5/24/2013	Vegetation & Watershed Management, Wildlife & Fish Management	66,350
6/18/2013	08-CV-1460 PJH	Watersheds Project	Western Watersheds Project	Advocates for the West Inc.	6/19/2013	Grazing Management	264,358
6/18/2013	08-CV-1460 PJH	Watersheds Project	Western Watersheds Project	Keher and Van Nest LLP	6/19/2013	Grazing Management	172,703
9/10/2013	09-cv-01272-WJM	WildEarth Guardians	Email sent 09/18/13 requesting FS-6500-224	WildEarth Guardians	9/18/2013	Vegetation & Watershed Management	141,886
9/11/2013	11-CV-95-BLW	Idaho Rivers United	Idaho Rivers United	Advocates for the West Inc.	9/14/2013	Roads, Wildlife & Fish	45,500

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
						Management	
9//19/2013	11-CV-23-PK	Hells Canyon Preservation Council	Grazing CE's Hells Canyon	Hells Canyon Preservation Council	9/17/2013	Recreation, Wilderness, & Wild and Scenic Rivers	136,500
9/24/2013	09-cv-2523-LKK-JFM	Center for Sierra Nevada Conservation	National Forest Management Act/Endangered Species Act	Bahr Law Offices, P.C.	9/25/2013	Trails	110,000
9/25/2013	10-cv-00612-EJL-REB	Western Watersheds Project	FC #7600034286 created & posted 09/25/13 - Waiting for final settlement approval amount to pay	Advocates for the West Inc.	11/14/2013	Hazardous Fuels	125,000
9/5/2013	11-cv-02921-MCE-DAD	Snowlands Network, Winter Wildlands Alliance & Center for Biological Diversity	Over snow vehicle (OSV) recreation	Advocates for the West Inc.	9/6/2013	Vegetation & Watershed Management	15,000
Subtotal FY 2013							\$1,586,978

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
9/25/2013	10-cv-00612-EJL-REB	Western Watersheds Project	Western Watersheds Project	Advocates for the West Inc.	11/14/2013	Hazardous Fuels Reduction	\$125,000
1/10/2014	3-11-CV-895-ST	Friends of the Columbia Gorge Inc.	Special Management Area	Friends of the Columbia Gorge Inc.	1/10/2014	Land Management Planning, & Landownership Management	17,855
3/14/2014	CV-12-27-M-DLC	Native Ecosystems for the Wild Rockies	Fleecer Mountains Project	Public Interest Defense	3/19/2014	Integrated Resource Restoration	19,802
3/19/2014	CV-10-2141	Breaker- Attorney's Fees	Martin Breaker	Siegel Brill P.A Trust	3/21/2014	Landownership Management	155,000
3/21/2014	13-CV-1827-CL	Murphy Co High Cascade Inc.	Stipulation for Temporary Stay of Proceedings	American Forest Resource Council	3/24/2014	Forest Products	7,500
4/24/2014	13-CV-01157-TLN-AC	Porcupine Vegetation & Road Management Project	Porcupine Vegetation & Road Management Project	Sean Malone - Attorney at Law	5/8/2014	Forest Products	3,500
5/1/2014	12-CV-00804-AA	Goose Project-Willamette	Cascadia Wildlands and Oregon Wild	Western Environmental Law Center	5/2/2014	Forest Products	60,000
5/22/2014	PIOGA	Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Assoc	Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Assoc	Pennsylvania Independent Oil & Gas Assoc	5/23/2014	Minerals Geology Management	530,000
6/5/2014	10-CV-02172-KJM-AC	Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center, The Wilderness Society, and Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility	California Association of 4-wheel Drive Clubs (Alleged violations of NEPA & APA)	Earthjustice	5/23/2014	Recreation Heritage Wilderness, & Vegetation Watershed Management	100,000

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
6/24/2014	12-CV-02416-WBS-KJN	Conservation Congress v. USFS. Tatham Project (NEPA)(ESA).	Tatham Project (NEPA)	Marianne G Dugan PC Attorney Trust	6/24/2014	Forest Products	36,500
9/12/2014	4:08-CV-00363-EJL	The Wilderness Society & Prairie Falcon Audubon, Inc. v. USFS & Magic Valley Trail Machine Assoc.		Western Environmental Law Center	9/15/2014	Roads-Capital Improvement & Maintenance, Trails-Capital Improvement & Maintenance, Grazing Management, Recreation Heritage Wilderness, & Integrated Resource Restoration	120,000
9/11/2014		Citizens for Healthy Communities			Funds Committed, Pending Final Judgment Information	Minerals Geology Management	60,000
9/26/2014	11-CV-00679-LJO-DLB	11-CV-00679-LJO-DLB		Matt Kenna, Attorney	9/26/2014	Land Management Planning	100,000
FY 2014 Subtotal							\$1,335,757

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
10/30/2014	4:12-CV-00384-REB	Greater Yellowstone Coalition v. Forest Service		Western Environmental Law Center IOLTA	11/24/2014	Trails-Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$32,000.00
12/11/2014	3:10-CV-01397-SI	League of Wilderness Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project v. USFS	Blue Mountains Biodiversity	League of Wilderness Defenders	2/18/2015	Vegetation Watershed Management	179,699.90
01/18/2015	2:14-CV-00729	Western Watersheds	Western Watersheds	Ryberg Erik	1/21/2015	Integrated Resource Restoration	5,350.00
01/12/2015	2:13-CV-0832-KJM-DAD	Mill Fire Salvage & Hazard Tree Removal	Mill Fire Salvage & Hazard Tree Removal	Ryberg Erik	1/21/2015	Forest Products	86,000.00
01/27/2015	14-CV-00284-JLK	Citizens for Healthy Communities v. USFS		Western Environmental Law Center IOLTA	1/29/2015	Minerals Geology Management	25,000.00
01/29/2015	10-CV-03004-CL	Eric Navickas, et al	Ashland Forest Resiliency	Sean T Malone	2/23/2015	Forest Products	45,000.00
2/06/2015	13-CV-01723-RBJ	High Country Conservation Advocates	Attorney's Fees	Earthjustice	3/11/2015	Minerals Geology Management	116,136.60
4/30/2015	3:10-CV-01397-SI	League of Wilderness Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project v. USFS	Blue Mountains Biodiversity	League of Wilderness Defenders	8/07/2015	Vegetation Watershed Management	155,000.00
8/14/2015	CV-14-1198	Public Employees	Attorney's Fees	Public	8/13/2015	Pool 1 Cultural	4,000.00

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
	(CKK)	for Environmental Responsibility		Employees for Environmental Responsibility		Transformation	
8/28/2015	CV-11-95-M-DWM	Mark Kowack	Joint Stipulation to Settlement For Attorney's Fees	Antonioli & Wade PC	8/28/2015	PD Civil Rights & HR ER LR	32,166.80
FY 2015 Subtotal							\$680,353.30

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
11/12/2015	11-CV-586-REB	Winter Wildlands Alliance v. United States Forest Service	WINTERLANDS	Advocate for the West	11/14/2015	Recreation Heritage Wilderness	\$86,000.00
11/15/2015	11-CV-00246-WYD	The Wilderness Society, Quiet Use Coalition, Wildearth Guardians Rocky Mountain Wild, and Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Plaintiff(s), v. United States Forest Service, a Federal agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Erin Connely, in her official capacity as Forest Supervisor for the Pike and San Isabel National Forests, Defendant(s), and Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition Trails Preservation Alliance, and the Blueribbon Coalition, Intervenor Defendants.	WILDEARTH GUARDIANS	EARTHJUSTICE	11/16/2015	Recreation Heritage Wilderness	\$90,638.48
12/1/2015	15-CV-00860-PK	Cascadia Wildlands vs. USFS	Cascadia Wildlands	Western Environmental Law Center	12/8/2015	Land Management Planning	\$8,000.00
12/1/2015	13-CV-00810-HZ	Gifford Pinchot Task Force v. Jerome E. Perez, Jr., Oregon/Washington State Director, Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"); United States Department of the Interior, BLM; Janine Clayton, Forest Supervisor, Gifford Pinchot National Forest; and the United States Forest Service, United States Department		Lewis & Clark College (Law School) Earthrise Law Center	12/8/2015	Minerals Geology Management	\$77,500.00

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
		of Agriculture ("USFS")					
12/1/2015	11-8128-PCT-NVW	Western Watershed Project and the Center for Biological Diversity, v. U.S. Forest Service	Western Watersheds Project & the Center for Biological Diversity	Erik Ryberg/Western Watersheds Project	12/8/2015	Integrated Resource Restoration	\$17,556.00
2/9/2016	CV-13-129-M-DWM	Swan View Coalition, et al., v. Chip Weber, Flathead National Forest Supervisor, et al.	Glacier Loon Project. Swan View Coalition	Public Interest Defense Center PC	2/11/2016	Integrated Resource Restoration	\$10,000.00
2/23/2016	13-CV-515-EJL	Friends of the Clearwater1; et al v. United States Forest Service	Friends of the Clearwater. Clearwater, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, and Sierra Club	Bahr Law Office P C	2/23/2016	Integrated Resource Restoration	\$48,703.85
2/23/2016	13-CV-515-EJL	Friends of the Clearwater1; et al v. United States Forest Service	Friends of the Clearwater. Clearwater, Alliance for the Wild Rockies, and Sierra Club	Bahr Law Office P C	2/23/2016	Roads-Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$16,234.62
3/24/2016	12-CV-02271-HZ	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, et al., Plaintiffs, v. James M. Pena, et al., Federal Defendants, and American Forest Resource Council, et al.,	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project. Earthrise Law Center	Lewis & Clark College	3/29/2016	Forest Products	\$211,000.00
3/24/2016	12-CV-02271-HZ	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, et al., Plaintiffs, v. James M. Pena, et al., Federal Defendants, and American Forest Resource Council, et al.,	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project. Earthrise Law Center	Lewis & Clark College	3/29/2016	Recreation Heritage Wilderness	\$19,000.00
3/24/2016	12-CV-02271-HZ	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, et al., Plaintiffs, v. James M. Pena, et al., Federal Defendants, and American Forest Resource Council, et al.,	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project. Earthrise Law Center	Lewis & Clark College	3/29/2016	Wildlife Fisheries Habitat Management	\$26,000.00

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
3/24/2016	12-CV-02271-HZ	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, et al., Plaintiffs, v. James M. Pena, et al., Federal Defendants, and American Forest Resource Council, et al.,	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project. Earthrise Law Center	Lewis & Clark College	3/29/2016	Vegetation Watershed Management	\$18,000.00
3/24/2016	12-CV-02271-HZ	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, et al., Plaintiffs, v. JAMES M. PENA, et al., Federal Defendants, and American Forest Resource Council, et al.,	League of Wilderness, Defenders/Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project. Earthrise Law Center	Lewis & Clark College	3/29/2016	Hazardous Fuels Reduction	\$126,000.00
3/25/2016	15-CV-01066-RSL	Alpine Lakes Protection Society/Kittitas Audubon Society & Sierra Club, non-profit corporations v. U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Mike Williams, in his official capacity as Forest Supervisor for the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest	Alpine Lakes Protection Society/Kittitas Audubon Society & Sierra Club.	Bahr Law Office P C	3/29/2016	Recreation Heritage Wilderness	\$10,000.00
3/25/2016	15-CV-01066-RSL	Alpine Lakes Protection Society/Kittitas Audubon Society & Sierra Club, and non-profit corporations v. U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Mike Williams, in his official capacity as Forest Supervisor for the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest	Alpine Lakes Protection Society/Kittitas Audubon Society & Sierra Club.	Bahr Law Office P C	3/29/2016	Recreation Heritage Wilderness	\$22,000.00
5/25/2016	1:14-CV-00341-LJO-SKO	Sequoia Keeper, v. Teresa Benson, et al	Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan	Rene P Voss	5/25/2016	Forest Products	\$98,000.00

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
7/7/2016	1:12-CV-4-REB	Idaho Conservation League v. Farnsworth	Idaho Conservation League. Healthy Forests Restoration Act	Earthjustice	7/7/2016	Integrated Resource Restoration	\$45,000.00
7/15/2016	CV 10-104-M-DWM	Wildearth Guardians, et al. v. U.S. Forest Service, et al.,	Wildearth Guardians	Jack Tuholske Attorney at Law PC	7/22/2016	Recreation Heritage Wilderness	\$103,060.00
7/19/2016	08-CV-00394	Idaho Wool Growers Association, and North American Packgoat Association, v Thomas Vilsack, in his official capacity as Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, Thomas Tidwell, in his official capacity as Chief of the United States Forest Service, and U.S. Forest Service	Idaho Wool Growers Association. Shoshone Land Management. RADT Reports	Andrew A Irvine PC	7/20/2016	Pool 1 General Management, Wildlife Fisheries Habitat Management	\$140,000.00
8/10/2016	Pacific Coast Federation Fisherman's Association	Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's	Black Butte River & Cold Creek	Law Offices of Stephan C Volker	8/18/2016	Recreation Heritage Wilderness, Landownership Management, Vegetation Watershed Management, Hazardous Fuel Reduction	\$50,350.00
8/31/2016	2:11-CV-1647-MCE-CMK	Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center, et al. v. Patricia Grantham, et al.	Oak Knoll Range Project Klamath National Forest	Law Office of David H Becker LLC	9/6/2016	Inventory & Monitoring, Landownership Management, Land Management Planning, Vegetation Watershed Management, Minerals & Geology Management	\$196,000.00
9/6/2016	3:15-CV-00169-BLW	Idaho River United and Morgan Wright, Olga Wright v. DISTRICT RANGER JOE HUDSON in his official capacity, and UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE	Idaho Rivers	Advocate for the West	9/7/2016	Integrated Resource Restoration	\$65,000.00
9/9/2016	5:12-CV-01841-TJH-OP	Richard Fragosa, Peter Wiechers, Alasdair Coyne, and John Karevoll v. U.S. Forest Service	Fragosa	Matt Kenna Attorney	9/13/2016	Pool 4 Ongoing Bus Svs	\$170,000.00

Date Rec	Docket, Court	Case	Project Name	Vendor Name	Date Certified	Program	Amount
		including Randy Moore, in his official capacity as Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region of the U.S. Forest Service.					
9/9/2016	1:09-CV-00023-JWS	Organized Village of Kake, et al., Plaintiffs, v. United States Department of Agriculture, et al., Defendants, and State of Alaska and Alaska Forest Association,	Tongass Conservation Society	Earth Justice	9/14/2016	Trails-Capital Improvement & Maintenance, Inventory & Monitoring, Recreation Heritage Wilderness, Forest Products	\$250,000.00
9/27/2016	CV-14-02446-RUC-RM	Defenders of Wildlife, et al. v. United States Forest Service, et al.,	Western Mining Action	Advocates for the West	9/27/2016	Pool 4 Ongoing Bus Svs	\$60,000.00
9/27/2016	CV-14-02446-RUC-RM	Defenders of Wildlife, et al. v. United States Forest Service, et al.,	Western Mining Action Project	Advocates for the West	9/27/2016	Integrated Resource Restoration, Minerals Geology Management	\$115,000.00
9/28/2016	CV-10-0330-AWT	Center for Biological Diversity v. Nicole Branton, et al. and Ward Arizona Ranch Properties, LLC	Center for Biological Diversity & Ward Arizona Ranch Properties LLC	Advocates for the West	9/28/2016	Recreation Heritage Wilderness, Integrated Resource Restoration	\$55,673.83
FY 2016 Subtotal							\$2,134,716.78

Facilities Maintenance Assessment

Background

This exhibit is included to address requirements of P.L. 109-54 Conference Report 109-188 page 125, which directed:

There should also be a display which indicates, by national forest, research station and area, the funding being allocated for facilities maintenance. The budget justification displays shall indicate, for every budget line item, the funding amount being assessed for facilities maintenance. This information should be readily visible along with each program description.

Overview

In FY 2006, Congress authorized a multi-program assessment of up to \$35 million for maintenance of agency-owned buildings in the categories of fire, administrative, and other (FA&O) facilities, including recreation visitor centers (Title III, Administrative Provisions, P.L. 109-54). Appropriated funds from Forest and Rangeland Research, State and Private Forestry, National Forest System, Wildland Fire Management, Capital Improvement and Maintenance, Land Acquisition, Other Appropriations, and eligible Permanent Appropriations and Trust Fund accounts were assessed. In FY 2013, the assessment limit was increased to \$55 million and it increased to \$65 million in FY 2016. The facility maintenance assessment applies only to Forest Service-owned FA&O space and does not include leased space.

Using program assessments to fund facility maintenance provides an incentive to identify and invest in only those facilities that are needed to accomplish the agency's mission, to dispose of surplus buildings, and to exercise restraint on starting new construction because the programs bear the cost of maintaining these facilities. This provides financial accountability by representing the cost of conducting business operations for land management purposes.

In FY 2017, units (Region, Station, or other units) requested assessments totaling just over \$65 million and allocations up to the cap of \$65 million were made based those requested amounts. The assessments range from \$1.16 to \$4.50 per square foot which falls within the limits of four percent of the facility replacement value and seven dollars per square foot. Assessments are distributed across eligible budget line items based on each program's prior year direct labor hour charges for permanent employees. Details of the Facilities Maintenance (CP09) Assessment by budget line item for FY 2015, 2016, and FY 2017 are included in tables at the end of this exhibit. For FY2018, we request that the \$65 million cap remain in place, but we will track FY2018 levels and ensure the final FY2018 assessment levels are proportional to available funding.

FA&O facilities include fire facilities such as air tanker bases, lookouts, airports, heliports, and fire management centers; administrative facilities, such as administrative offices (ranger district offices, forest supervisor offices, regional offices, research stations, and laboratories), service centers, storage buildings, and nurseries; and other facilities, such as telecommunication facilities, towers, dams, and major recreation visitor centers. Generally, routine maintenance costs for these facilities come from funds collected by this assessment, while more expensive maintenance needs are funded through the Capital Improvement, Facilities Maintenance or Deferred Maintenance and Infrastructure Improvement budget line items.

The Forest Service currently maintains approximately 40,000 Forest Service-owned facilities including 16,300 administrative buildings and 5,700 recreation buildings. The agency also maintains an inventory of approximately 1,700 Forest Service-owned, special use permitted, and other dams as well as numerous other facilities including approximately 4,780 water and 4,760 wastewater systems and numerous communication facilities. The current large inventory is a legacy of former management needs and practices with many facilities in disrepair as evidenced by a significant deferred maintenance backlog.

Federal mandates including the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and Energy Policy Act (EPAct) of 2005 in combination with Executive Orders (EO) 13514, 13423, and 13717 require energy, water, earthquake hazard management, and other environmental impact reductions.

Facilities Maintenance Assessment funds are also used to accomplish the following:

- Conduct energy and water efficiency evaluations to identify energy and water conservation measures per the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and to reduce building energy intensity to meet greenhouse gas emission targets per EO 13514.
- Conduct assessments of existing buildings and incorporate necessary improvements to existing buildings to meet the guiding principles per EO 13514 including increasing energy efficiency; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; protecting water resources through efficiency, reuse, and stormwater management; eliminating waste, recycling, and preventing pollution; and designing, constructing, maintaining, and operating sustainable buildings.
- Install renewable energy sources where economically feasible per the EPCA of 2005.
- Install advanced metering systems to measure, verify, and improve utility consumption per the EPCA of 2005.
- Decommission or dispose of surplus facilities thereby reducing deferred maintenance and amount of square footage requiring maintenance.

Past Performance

Accomplishments related to buildings and similar structures are included under the Capital Improvement and Maintenance Facilities Section. The following tables display the distribution of the assessment by program for FY 2015, FY 2016, and FY 2017* as well as the FY 2017* allocations by unit.

Facilities Maintenance (CP09) Assessment by BLI

FY 2015, FY 2016, and FY 2017*

(dollars in thousands)

BLI Description	Budget Line Item	FY 2015 Facilities Maintenance Assessment	FY 2016 Facilities Maintenance Assessment	FY 2017 Facilities Maintenance Assessment*
Forest & Rangeland Research				
Total Forest & Rangeland Research	FRRE	\$3,960	\$4,680	\$4,810
State & Private Forestry				
Forest Stewardship	SPST	\$55	\$73	\$65
Forest Health Mgmt. – Coop. Lands	SPCH	110	308	195
Forest Health Mgmt. - Fed Lands	SPFH	660	607	715
Urban and Community Forestry	SPUF	55	65	65
Total State & Private Forestry		\$880	\$1,053	\$1,040
National Forest System				
Collab. Forest Landscape Rest.	CFLN	\$605	\$815	\$715
Land Management Planning	NFPN	605	668	520
Grazing Management	NFRG	1,045	1,208	1,235
Forest Products	NFTM	5,170	6,913	6,955
Landownership Management	NFLM	1,430	1,593	1,560
Inventory & Monitoring	NFIM	1,705	1,974	2,145
Minerals and Geology Mgmt.	NFMG	1,210	1,395	1,365
Integrated Resource Restoration	NFRR	4,015	4,994	4,940
Recreation, Heritage, & Wilderness	NFRW	5,225	5,631	5,785
Wildlife & Fisheries Habitat Mgmt.	NFWF	1,925	2,189	2,275
Vegetation and Watershed Mgmt.	NFVW	2,035	2,290	2,275
Total National Forest System		\$24,970	\$29,670	\$29,770
Capital Improvement & Maintenance				
Facilities	CMFC	\$1,045	\$1,232	\$1,105
Roads	CMRD	2,640	2,890	2,925

Facilities Maintenance (CP09) Assessment by BLI
FY 2015, FY 2016, and FY 2017*
(dollars in thousands)

BLI Description	Budget Line Item	FY 2015 Facilities Maintenance Assessment	FY 2016 Facilities Maintenance Assessment	FY 2017 Facilities Maintenance Assessment*
Trails	CMTL	1,210	1,530	1,495
Legacy Road Remediation	CMLG	220	204	195
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance		\$5,115	\$5,856	\$5,720
Land Acquisition				
Total Land Acquisition	LALW	\$110	\$148	\$130
Wildland Fire Management				
Preparedness	WFPR	\$13,915	\$16,698	\$16,445
Hazardous Fuels Reduction	WFHF	4,070	4,488	5,005
Coop Fire Plan - State Fire Assist.	WFCF	55	67	65
Total Wildland Fire Management		\$18,040	\$21,253	\$21,515
Permanent Appropriations				
Brush Disposal	BDBD	\$110	\$197	\$130
Timber Salvage Sales	SSSS	605	584	715
Total Permanent Appropriations		\$715	\$781	\$845
Trust Fund Appropriations				
Cooperative Work – KV	CWKV	\$825	\$861	\$715
Reforestation Trust Fund	RTRT	385	369	455
Total Trust Fund Appropriations.		\$1,210	\$1,230	\$1,170
TOTAL		\$55,000	\$64,671	\$65,000

*Based on Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017. Will be updated as needed.

FY 2017 Facilities Maintenance Initial Assessment and Allocation by Unit
Based on Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017

Unit Name	Total Gross Square Feet (GSF)	Dollars per GSF	Total Initial Assessment & Allocation <i>(dollars in thousands)</i>
Regions			
Northern Region	3,016,509	\$2.32	\$7,000
Rocky Mountain Region	1,972,819	\$2.13	\$4,200
Southwestern Region	2,375,287	\$2.61	\$6,200
Intermountain Region	2,695,212	\$2.28	\$6,137
Pacific Southwest Region	4,972,405	\$2.03	\$10,100
Pacific Northwest Region	4,876,044	\$2.05	\$10,000
Southern Region	3,216,933	\$2.09	\$6,709
Eastern Region	3,706,768	\$1.75	\$6,500
Alaska Region	665,362	\$4.10	\$2,729
Region Subtotal	27,497,339	\$21.36	\$59,575
Research Stations			
Forest Products Lab	453,797	\$1.68	\$762
Int'l Inst. of Tropical Forestry	30,401	\$3.75	114
Rocky Mountain Station	462,240	\$2.06	950
Northern Station	459,898	\$1.83	840
Pacific Northwest Station	279,214	\$2.86	799

**FY 2017 Facilities Maintenance Initial Assessment and Allocation by Unit
Based on Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017**

Unit Name	Total Gross Square Feet (GSF)	Dollars per GSF	Total Initial Assessment & Allocation (dollars in thousands)
Pacific Southwest Station	257,517	\$1.16	300
Southern Research Station	443,142	\$2.43	1,075
Research Station Subtotal	2,386,209	\$2.03	\$4,840
Other Units			
Technology & Development Centers	207,173	\$0.83	\$171
Grey Towers	49,253	\$2.31	114
Wood Education	66,691	\$4.50	300
Other Units Subtotal	323,117	\$1.81	\$585
Total	30,206,665	\$2.15	\$65,000

Farm Bill Implementation

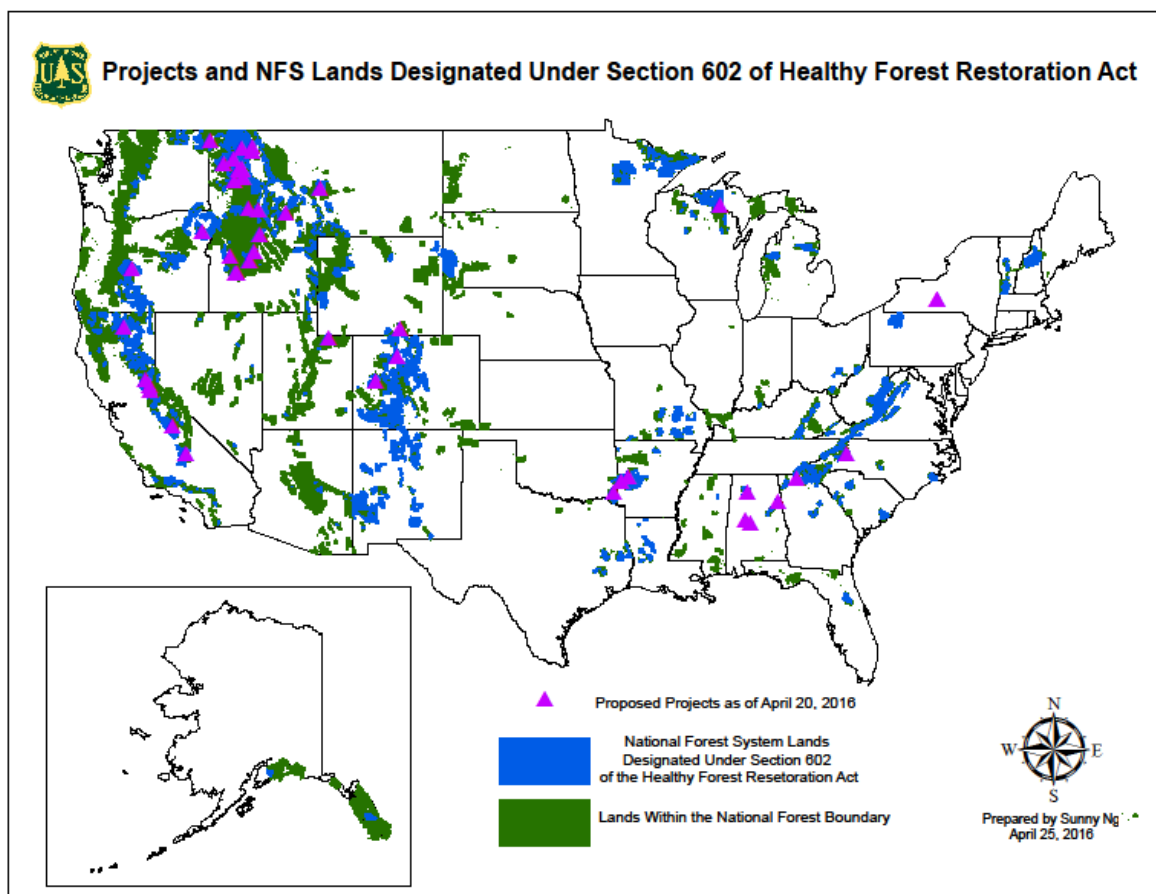
Background

Section 8204 of the Farm Bill amends the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA), by adding sections 602 and 603 to the end of HFRA. Section 602 outlines the designation requirements for landscape scale areas. Section 603 creates a new categorical exclusion to reduce the risk or extent of, or increase the resilience to, insect, or disease infestation in areas designated under section 602 as landscape scale areas. Section 603 also sets out annual reporting requirements.

The Good Neighbor Authority (Title VIII Sec. 8206 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, i.e. “Farm Bill,” and Title IV, Sec. 417 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014) allows the Forest Service to enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with States and Puerto Rico to allow them to perform watershed restoration and forest management services on federal and non-federal lands. Agreement templates for both authorities were approved by Office of Management and Budget in June 2015. Fifty-seven agreements in 22 States have been executed with the Forest Service to perform a variety of restoration services.

Insect and Disease Designations

- Based on requests from the states, the Forest Service has designated approximately 45.6 million acres across the National Forest System that are either already experiencing or are at risk of experiencing insect and disease infestations. Furthermore, the Chief designated an additional 10.1 million acres of National Forest System lands based on requests from Regional Foresters, bring the total areas designated to 55.7 million acres.

**Agency Implementation Efforts**

The agency will continue to build on these efforts in an expedited manner. Thus far, seventy-four projects have been proposed under the Farm Bill Insect and Disease provisions. Sixty-three of these projects are utilizing the new Categorical Exclusion (CE). Eight projects are utilizing an Environmental Assessment (EA). Three projects are utilizing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Forty-five Farm Bill decisions have been signed (41 CEs, 3 EAs and 1 EIS). Projects proposed actions vary, including commercial timber harvesting, pre-commercial harvesting; prescribe burning, and chemical and biological control of pest species. Several additional projects are under development and will be included in future reports.

Good Neighbor Authority

The agency continues to grow relationships with State partners using the Good Neighbor Authority. Since July 2015, Good Neighbor agreements have been established in 22 States including: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Many of them are long-term agreements up to ten years and presently all of them rely on the permanent authority provided in the Farm Bill.

Project agreements are being used to complete a wide range of restoration activities on National Forest System lands. For example, the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and the State of Wisconsin developed a program that serves as a model for other states and national forests. This partnership with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is on track to complete timber sales, wildlife habitat improvements, and other restoration activities on 4,000 to 5,000 acres annually. This will yield approximately 25 million board feet and more than \$2 million in project value each year. At least four other states have adopted similar plans. Projects in other states include prescribed burning; inventory and removal of non-native invasive plants; Douglas-fir tussock moth treatment across Federal, State, municipal, and private lands; wildlife habitat survey and improvement; rangeland vegetation treatments; and many other activities.

Fire Transfers

Background

This exhibit is not required by Congressional direction; however, it is included to provide an update on the status of funds borrowed from other budget line item accounts and transferred to the Wildland Fire Management Suppression account for the purpose of emergency fire suppression.

Overview

Transfers for fire suppression occur when the agency has exhausted all available fire resources from the Suppression and FLAME accounts. Congressional appropriations currently fund the agency at around the 10-year average for wildland fire suppression costs. If wildland fire suppression costs exceed the 10-year average and any available suppression balances, the Forest Service must receive a supplemental appropriation or execute fire transfer(s) from other program accounts for fire suppression expenditures.

Unlike previous years, the Forest Service did not transfer funds from other program areas in FY 2016. The total cost of wildfire suppression in FY 2016 was \$1.6 billion, which was covered by funds Congress appropriated for suppression (\$811 million) and the FLAME account (\$823 million).

The following table lists the funds that were not fully repaid from fire transfers that occurred from FY 2002 through FY 2016.

**Funds Withdrawn for Transfer for Wildland Fire Suppression
and Not Repaid from FY 2002 to FY 2016**
(dollars in thousands)

Appropriation	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	Amount
Forest & Rangeland Research	\$-	\$32	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$32
State and Private Forestry	-	3,099	-	-	-	3,099
National Forest System	33,000	73,167	-	-	-	106,167
Capital Improvements and Maintenance	25,000	10,305	-	-	-	35,305
Land Acquisitions	-	4,308	5,000	-	-	9,308
Brush Disposal	-	64	-	-	-	64
Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Fund	-	45	-	-	-	45
Timber Purchaser Election Road Construction	-	90	10,000	20,000	-	30,090
Timber Salvage Sales	-	112	-	-	-	112
Restoration of Forest Lands and Improvements	-	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
Working Capital Fund	65,000	11,029	10,000	-	-	86,029
Wildland Fire Preparedness	80,000	-	-	-	13,786	93,786
Forest Land Enhancement Program	-	40,032	-	-	-	40,032
Total	\$203,000	\$142,283	\$25,000	\$20,000	\$33,786	\$424,069

Note 1: From FY 2009 through FY 2016 all fire transfers have been repaid in full. For FY 2004 and FY 2005 there was not a need for fire transfers.

Note 2: WFPR and FLEP are not to be repaid (\$133,818 combined), resulting in a true total unpaid amount of \$290,251.

- Regarding FLEP: FLEP was adopted in the 2002 Farm Bill and the Program's funding authority expired in 2007.

- Regarding WFPR: Congress has provided the Forest Service the following authority in the relevant annual appropriations: "Any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be transferred to the Wildland Fire Management appropriation for forest firefighting, emergency rehabilitation of burned-over or damaged lands or waters under its jurisdiction, and fire preparedness due to severe burning conditions if and only if all previously appropriated emergency contingent funds under the heading "Wildland Fire Management" have been released by the President and apportioned and all funds under the heading "Wildland Fire Management" are obligated." Funds transferred from WFPR to fire suppression efforts fall under the Wildland Fire Management umbrella, as both Preparedness and Suppression are part of that Program.

National Scenic and Historic Trails

Background

This special exhibit is included to address requirements of P.L. 111-88 House Report 111-180 page 132, which directed:

The Committee recommendation retains previous base funding for maintenance, construction, and operation of the network of national scenic and historic trails but encourages additional funding for required work of the newly authorized national trails. Future budget justifications should continue to provide specific trail operation, maintenance and construction funding and accomplishment data for the national scenic and historic trails. The Forest Service should provide full time administrators and prepare the required comprehensive management plans for the newly authorized national trails.

Overview

Since the enactment of the National Trails System Act in 1968, the Forest Service has designated trail administrators for six National Scenic and Historic Trails (NS&HT): Arizona, Continental Divide, Florida, Nez Perce (Nee Mee Poo), Pacific Crest, and Pacific Northwest. The Forest Service manages portions of 15 additional NS&HTs on National Forest System (NFS) lands, in cooperation with the Department of the Interior (DOI), Department of State and county governments, and private partners. Funding for administration and management of these trails is included within the Capital Improvement and Maintenance - Trails budget line item. Acquisition of trail segments is included within the Land Acquisition budget line item. In previous years, the Forest Service has had full administrative responsibility for the Appalachian Trail. Currently, the Appalachian Trail is managed in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS). The Forest Service Southern Region (Region 8) provides a liaison for trail management and activities, so accomplishments are the result of collaboration between the NPS and the Forest Service.

Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT)

This 2,190-mile footpath crosses along the ridge crests and across the major valleys of the Appalachian Mountains from Mt. Katahdin in Maine to Springer Mountain in northern Georgia. The trail traverses Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia. The trail is used by day, weekend, and other short-term hikers, section-hikers, and through-hikers who hike the entire length of the trail in one season. The trail is currently protected along more than 99 percent of its course by Federal or State ownership or rights-of-way and is administratively managed by the National Park Service.

Arizona National Scenic Trail (ANST)

Designated on March 30, 2009, through the Omnibus Public Land Management Act (P.L. 111- 11), the AZNST extends 807 miles across the State of Arizona showcasing its diverse vegetation, wildlife, geology and scenery, and providing unparalleled opportunities for hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians. Seventy three percent of the trail is on national forest lands. The iconic landscapes that give this national scenic trail its cherished and unique character are not static. Arizona is rich in minerals and many proposed mining projects threaten to relocate the trail and forever change the beautiful, timeless vistas that people come from thousands of miles to enjoy. Other threats include energy projects, wildfires, and development. There is inadequate corridor protection for over 90 miles on State Trust land. These challenges are being addressed by the Forest Service in the ongoing development of the Comprehensive Plan for trail administration and management. The agency is also in the process of identifying the national trail right-of-way required under 16 U.S.C. 1246(a)(2).

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT)

Designated November 10, 1978, the 3,100 mile long CDT spans the wild, spectacular mountain country along the spine of the Rocky Mountains from Mexico to Canada. The route connects 20 National Forests, three National Parks, one National Monument, 13 Bureau of Land Management field offices, historic and traditional cultural sites, and primitive wildlands. Approximately 90 percent of the trail is located within publicly owned lands; however, many trail segments

are currently co-located along with open roads or motorized trails. Easements are lacking across numerous parcels of private and State land (including 32 State-owned parcels in New Mexico alone) and are needed to secure a continuous route available for permanent public use.

Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST)

Added to the national trails system in 1983, the FNST consists of a 1,300 mile planning corridor stretching from Big Cypress National Preserve in the Everglades to Gulf Islands National Seashore in the panhandle of Florida. A FY 2016 inventory shows 1,063 miles of certified FNST on the ground, leaving just under 300 miles in gaps. The FNST is the only National Scenic Trail that gives the public the opportunity to experience a wide range of subtropical environments, karst spring and riverine systems, and a beach walk on a National Seashore.

Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT)

In 1986, Congress acknowledged the significance of the Nez Perce Conflict of 1877 by establishing the 1,170 mile NPNHT. The route winds through remote, rugged, and scenic terrain. With the cooperation of State Highway Department and County Commissioners in the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, and Montana, over 2,991 miles of Federal, State, and county roads are designated as the NPNHT Auto Tour Route. The route roughly parallels the course travelled by the five Nez Perce bands during their historic 1877 odyssey, beginning near Wallowa Lake, Oregon, and ending at Bear Paw Mountains south of Chinook, Montana. National designation protects the actual historic trail to foot and equestrian travel only. The diversity of this trail lies in the details, where low level roads overlay the historic trail, and opportunities for off-highway vehicles, biking and snowmobile use exists. National Historic Trails also are required to have historic sites and high potential segments. The NPNHT currently has 79 historic sites to be managed and 7 high potential segments which have historic tread from 1877 or were prehistoric travel routes. The NPNHT is currently revising its Comprehensive Plan for trail administration and management. The NPNHT is also in the process of completing the national trail right-of-way required under 16 U.S.C. 1246(a)(2).

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT)

The PCT is a 2,659-mile congressionally designated trail that follows the crest of the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Mountain ranges from the Mexican to Canadian borders through California, Oregon, and Washington. Established in 1968, the trail was completed in 1993 and lies within publicly owned lands except for approximately 300 miles where it crosses private lands (easements have been acquired for the trail tread). There are 25 National Forests; seven Bureau of Land Management field offices; six National Park units; five National Monuments and 48 designated wilderness areas. Over half of the PCT is in designated wilderness, which provides continued undeveloped open space and landscape-scale connections for wildlife, citizens, and communities.

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNNST)

The Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail (PNNST) is a unique pathway that travels through some of the most spectacular and scenic terrain in the United States, connecting diverse landscapes and communities of the Pacific Northwest. The trail begins at the Continental Divide in Glacier National Park and travels 1,200 miles through Montana, Idaho, and Washington before reaching the Pacific Ocean near Cape Alava. The PNNST program focuses on achieving the Forest Service and Pacific Northwest Region's goals for Sustainable Recreation as it connects people and communities to the natural and cultural history of the Pacific Northwest. The trail's complex land ownership includes three National Parks, seven National Forests, and six Washington State Parks, three regions of the Washington Department of Natural Resources, land managed by the Idaho Department of Lands, and lands managed by a variety of other public and private owners.

Other National Scenic and Historic Trails (NSHT)

There are an additional 15 national scenic and historic trails totaling over 6,700 miles for which the Forest Service coordinates management with other Federal public land agencies. These trails are: California, Camino Real Tejas, Camino Tierra Adentro, De Anza, Ice Age, Iditarod, Lewis and Clark, Mormon Pioneer, North Country, Old Spanish, Oregon, Overmountain Victory, Pony Express, Santa Fe, and Trail of Tears.

Funding for National Scenic and Historical Trails
(dollars in thousands)

	FY 2016 Enacted			FY 2017 Annualized CR			FY 2018 Estimated		
Name	Trails	Land Acq.	Sub-total	Trails	Land Acq.	Sub-total	Trails	Land Acq.	Sub-total
Appalachian	283	825	1,108	283	825	1,108	283	0	1,108
Arizona	495	0	495	495	0	495	495	0	495
Continent	1,677	0	1,677	1,677	0	1,677	1,677	0	1,677
Florida	1,300	0	1,300	1,300	0	1,300	1,300	0	1,300
Nez Perce	800	525	1,325	800	525	1,325	800	0	1,325
Pacific Crest	1,829	3,200	5,029	1,829	3,200	5,029	1,829	0	5,029
Pacific	838	0	838	838	0	838	838	0	838
All-others	702	2,820	3,522	702	2,820	3,522	702	0	3,522
Total	\$7,924	\$7,370	\$15,294	\$7,924	\$7,370	\$15,294	\$7,924	\$0	\$15,294

Historical Marker Celebrating History of Florida NST



A permanent marker for the northern terminus of the Florida National Scenic Trail was dedicated November 18, 2016 near the trail head at the main parking lot inside Ft. Pickens at Great Islands National Seashore. The design is a replica of one of the arches of Fort Pickens and utilizes the same bricks that are used to repair the fort. Pictured are National Park Service Superintendent Dan Brown, Florida National Scenic Trail Program Manager Shawn Thomas, and Florida Trail Association volunteers who were instrumental in this process.

FY 2016 Innovative Actions and Accomplishments (by specific Trail)

Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT)

Partners: Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Appalachian Mountain Club, National Park Service, and other Federal,

State, and nongovernmental organization.

- Routine Trail Maintenance. The AT was kept safe and enjoyable for visitors along its entire length through the Southern Region (approximately 700 miles). Nearly every mile received maintenance attention, and most received the benefits of multiple work trips. These efforts were primarily accomplished by 1,367 volunteers who safely contributed 72,496 hours across the region. In the Eastern Region, the White Mountain National Forest maintained 169 miles of the AT primarily through 3,135 hours of volunteer time.

Arizona National Scenic Trail

Partners: Arizona Trail Association (ATA), Federal, State, local government, and nongovernmental organizations.

- A regional interdisciplinary team began documenting existing conditions of the ANST corridor in preparation for drafting a comprehensive plan. Through the existing Forest Service cost-share agreement, the Arizona Trail Association (ATA) was engaged to assist in the collection of trail use and conditions data, including information on facilities, cultural and natural history, and scenery resources.
- Collaboration with American Conservation Experience (ACE) has allowed the ATA to initiate a comprehensive trail steward training program implemented through several two-day sessions. ACE is sharing their extensive experience in construction and maintenance of trails, teaching stewards everything from arid lands hydrology and how it relates to trail sustainability, to building rock check dams and realigning poorly built trails. The ATA continued their Seeds of Stewardship program, providing 30 outings along the ANST for school children from gateway communities along the trail. Thirty-two major ATA volunteer projects took place trail-wide including gate installation, sign and kiosk fabrication and installation, and trail maintenance and realignment. The Forest Service partnered with youth corps on 11 maintenance and realignment projects trail-wide.

Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDT)

Partners: Continental Divide Trail Coalition, Montana Wilderness Association, Colorado Trail Foundation, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado, Montana Conservation Corps, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Conservation Legacy, Backcountry Horsemen and numerous other Federal, State, and local nongovernmental organizations.

- Worked collaboratively with Forest Service personnel and CDT partners to develop multi-regional guidance to assist CDT revision forests when undergoing forest plan revision. This guidance will result in increased efficiency for revision forests and improved management of this long-distance, multi-jurisdictional trail.
- Implemented an inter-agency and multi-regional Memorandum of Understanding between land management agencies to clarify roles and responsibilities in managing portions of the trail in southern Montana and Idaho. This document will result in improved efficiency and effectiveness in managing the trail.
- Aided by Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) appropriations and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Bureau of Land Management acquired 5,200 acres of critical lands between Grants and Pie Town, New Mexico. This purchase protects riparian and elk habitat, provides for permanent public access, and is the first, crucial step to being able to close the largest gap (a 50-mile road walk) along the CDT.
- The Forest Service, in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, purchased 600 acres within the Bear Creek watershed near Silver City, New Mexico thanks to LWCF funding. This property has significant ecological and water resource values. This purchase provides for permanent public access to this area and protects one mile of the CDT corridor that was at risk of being developed.
- CDT designated an additional four Gateway Communities in 2016: Grants, New Mexico, Pinedale and Rawlins, Wyoming, and Salmon, Idaho. A full-time AmeriCorps Vista member continued to expand the Gateway Community Program and initiated and supported numerous community events along the trail.
- CDT continued to expand the Trail Adopter Program across the CDT, completing several adopter trainings and ten volunteer work projects along the trail.
- CDT produced a "20 Best Hikes of the CDT in Colorado" publication in partnership with the Colorado

Mountain Club.

- Developed and piloted a rapid trail condition assessment tool to be fully implemented along the trail in FY 2017. The information provided by this assessment will enable us to direct trail funding to the highest and best uses along the trail.

Florida National Scenic Trail (FNST)

Partners: Florida Trail Association, USDI National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Forest Service, Florida State Parks, and other Federal, State, and nongovernmental organizations.

- **Trail Maintenance and Development:** Volunteers maintained 100 percent of the FNST for a total of more than 23,000 hours. Completed Optimal Corridor Review for 132 miles of Trail. Added over 20 miles of designated trail.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Successful completed two 250 span boardwalks and 1 bridge closing over 20 miles of gaps in the Florida Trail utilizing 2 non-profit partners, Federal, and State agency partners.
- **Cultural and Outreach:** Established interpretive kiosks and a northern terminus marker at Gulf Islands National Seashore in collaboration with National Park Service. Designated state historical marker at 50th anniversary site of 1st blaze of FNST at Ocala National Forest.

• **Completing Boardwalks and a Bridge on the Florida National Scenic Trail**



Youth and future leader engagement created curriculum based trail guide for 3 – 5th grade students. Hosted a graduate intern focused on planning and promotion of the Florida Trail for all of FY 2016. Supported partner in alternative break, school group, and internship opportunities along trail.

Nez Perce National Historic Trail (NPNHT, or Nee-Mee-Poo)

Partners: The Nez Perce Trail Foundation, Nez Perce Appaloosa Horse Club, the Idaho Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, the Wallowa Band Nez Perce Trail Interpretive Center, the Bitter Root Cultural Heritage Trust, Eastern Oregon University, and Montana Natural History Center.

- In 2016, NPNHT staff and Comprehensive Plan Coordinator met with officials from the States of Idaho Oregon and Washington. Chapters one and two for the revised Comprehensive Plan (CP) are undergoing internal review by numerous staffs in the Washington Office of the U.S. Forest Service. This is very important because it will be the first Forest Service revised National Trail CP that will fully meet the requirements of the National Trails System Act. In addition, the Comprehensive Plan Interdisciplinary Team has been hired to complete the Trail's Existing Condition report. Staff are anticipating a draft CP by the fall of 2017.
- The National Forest units along the NPNHT are verifying the Trail's centerline. The Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began reviewing the maps in the fall of 2016. On federal lands there will be some type of a designated trail centerline. There will be three types of lines on the maps;

the Trail in the location that Congress intended, areas where the Trail is on roads (show as an interim Trail until the Trail can be relocated onto existing Trails or a Trail built), and a proposed Trail will be shown where the historical evidences show the Flight passed but no Trail tread exists at this time.

- We will continue to promote the NPNHT through educators, social media, including through Flickr, Twitter, videos on You Tube, webcams, and collaboration with our partners to post information about us on Facebook reaching thousands of visitors. We have 1,300 Followers on Twitter @npnht. The NPNHT website saw more than 100,000 visits last year. The NPNHT video “Landscape of History” has been viewed more than 20,000 times, this makes it one of the top 15 videos viewed on the USDA YouTube channel.

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT)

Partners: Pacific Crest Trail Association, American Conservation Experience, California Conservation Corps, Student Conservation Association, Oregon Equestrian Trails, Backcountry Horsemen of California, Oregon, Washington, and other Federal, State, and nongovernmental organizations.

Ecological Restoration and Sustainability

- Trail maintenance and construction efforts were focused in areas where fire and floods have closed the PCT. Youth Corps and volunteer restoration work on the San Bernardino NF (Mountain Fire), BLM Ridgecrest Office and Angeles NF (Fall 2015 Emergency Relief for Federally Owned roads-Mudslide Event), and Angeles National Forest (Powerhouse Fire).
- Developed Visitor Use Management Strategies for increased use on the PCT.
- Our Crest Runner Program (Cleveland NF and BLM Palm Springs and El Centro Field Offices) taught Leave No Trace and monitored impacts the first 110 miles of the trail.
- Partnered with researchers on recreation impacts monitoring and management.
- Facilitated discussions with federal agencies which administer lands that the John Muir Trail crosses (210 miles of the PCT) to ensure that wilderness resource concerns are discussed and permit management issues are considered.

Prioritize and support Land Acquisition along the PCT Corridor (Conserve Open Space)

- Land acquisition program continues with partners and federal agencies to protect the trail. We signed options signed and acquired lands 2,612 acres in Washington and California with federal and partner funding.

Federal Planning Efforts to Define and Protect the PCT Corridor

- We released Draft Forest Land and Resource Management Plans for the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests with direction for the Pacific Crest NST. The plans include desired conditions, objectives, standards and guidelines and define the trail corridor.

Fostering citizen stewardship, volunteer opportunities, and youth engagement

- Work is coordinated through a Service First Agreement to support a wide variety of youth and diverse partners on national forest and BLM lands. This seamless partnership allows for longer continuous employment of the crews and leaders, increases the skill level of the team, and allows for administrative flexibility.

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail

Partners: Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA), National Park Service, Bureau of Land Manager, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington State Parks, Idaho Department of Lands, Tribal governments, many county and municipal governments and agencies along the length of the trail.

- Twenty-eight members of the Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Advisory Council (PNNST) were approved by the Secretary of Agriculture in 2015. This public-private collaborative group has met three

times and provides advice and recommendations on future management and administration of the PNNST to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Chief of the Forest Service. The Advisory Council has also established several regionally-based subcommittees to improve community engagement in the PNNST comprehensive planning process.

- The Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA) fielded more than 15 trail crews along the PNNST and constructed, improved, or maintained more than 325 miles of trail.
- This year, several volunteer groups including the Student Conservation Association, Back Country Horsemen, Washington Trails Association, and Pacific Northwest Trail Association were prepared to work on trails in the Sullivan Ranger District of Colville National Forest, but the Forest lacked staff capacity to manage these efforts. To fill this need, the Pacific Northwest Trail Association provided support for volunteer coordination, and managed the efforts of all four organizations for the course of the season. This support, and the collaboration between volunteer groups that resulted from PNTA leadership, led to a very successful and productive volunteer season on the Colville. The trail maintenance organizations involved reported that they were able to accomplish more together than they would have individually, and their cooperation was responsible for nearly all of the trail maintenance completed in the Sullivan Ranger District this year.

FY 2016 Partner Contributions and Associated Accomplishments

Location	Volunteers						
	Hours	In-kind Contributions	Non-Cash Contributions	Miles of Trail Maintained	Miles of Trail Improved	Acres Acquired	Major Structures Constructed
Appalachian	75,631	\$0	\$0	868	0	0	0
Arizona	12,981	0	0	82	1	0	1
Continental Divide	35,000	0	0	950	50	5,825	134
Florida	23,442	540,807	0	13	40	0	18
Nez Perce	13,000	35,000	12,000	90	109	0	0
Pacific Crest	92,100	2,169,876	438,724	1,854	30	2612.1	3
Pacific Northwest	11,490	1,413	0	329	90	0	5
Other** (known)		0				228	
Total	263,644	\$2,747,096	\$450,724	4,186	320	8,655	161

**Acres Acquired – Other, includes: Trail of Tears NHT, Cherokee National Forest (222 acres) and Bonneville Shoreline Trail in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF in Utah (6 acres).

Office of General Counsel Reimbursement

Background

This special exhibit is required by P.L. 110-161, page 121, Administrative Provisions, which directed:

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service not to exceed \$500,000 may be used to reimburse the Office of the General Counsel (OGC), Department of Agriculture, for travel and related expenses incurred as a result of OGC assistance or participation requested by the Forest Service at meetings, training sessions, management reviews, land purchase negotiations and similar non-litigation related matters. Future budget justifications for both the Forest Service and the Department of Agriculture should clearly display the sums previously transferred and the requested funding transfers.”

Overview

The USDA Office of General Counsel bills the Forest Service quarterly for non-litigation travel and related costs. The FY 2016 actual reimbursement in the table below reflects billings received to date.

Office of General Counsel Reimbursement FY 2016 to FY 2018

FY 2016 Actual Reimbursement	FY 2017 Estimated Reimbursement	FY 2018 Planned Reimbursement
\$13,000	\$25,000	\$25,000

Region, Station, and Area Allocations

Background

This exhibit is not required by Congressional direction; however, it is included to provide historical information on allocations of appropriations at the Fund and Budget Line Item levels to Forest Service Regions, Stations and Areas.

Overview

The Office of Management and Budget apportions all funds available to the Forest Service prior to obligation or disbursement. Once funds are apportioned to the Forest Service at the fund level, they are allocated throughout the agency to Budget Line Items in the Regions, Stations, and Areas.

The Forest Service operates through nine geographical regions, seven research stations, the Northeastern Area - State and Private Forestry, the Albuquerque Service Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the national headquarters in Washington, DC. Allocations are determined by balancing the priorities of Congress, the Administration, agency leadership, and Region/Station/Area capabilities. They act as agency administrative divisions of apportionments and are used to monitor financial status and prevent deficiency.

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016 (dollars in thousands)	Region 1 - Northern Region			Region 2 - Rocky Mountain Region		
	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$86	\$42	\$40
State & Private Forestry						
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands	\$3,685	\$3,956	\$3,867	\$3,307	\$3,709	\$3,447
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands	1,870	1,382	1,085	3,077	2,137	1,992
Forest Stewardship	581	574	594	1,118	1,149	1,186
Forest Legacy Program	5,441	15,424	10,038	320	344	338
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry	746	771	759	1,751	1,784	1,806
Landscape Scale Restoration	0	475	0	0	1,870	7
International Forestry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State & Private Forestry	\$12,323	\$22,582	\$16,343	\$9,573	\$10,993	\$8,777
National Forest System						
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	\$6,166	\$5,534	\$5,345	\$3,368	\$3,167	\$2,964
Land Management Planning	3,322	4,028	3,496	1,766	2,033	1,661
Inventory and Monitoring	11,268	10,913	10,412	9,483	9,365	8,947
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	15,529	17,215	15,008	24,015	24,271	23,921
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management	0	0	0	9,938	10,140	9,538
Grazing Management	6,270	6,389	6,451	8,945	8,811	9,037
Forest Products	0	0	0	30,217	29,598	30,823
Vegetation and Watershed Management	0	0	0	14,217	14,139	12,920
Minerals and Geology Management	9,856	8,431	8,726	8,386	8,546	8,592
Landownership Management	5,786	6,101	5,700	6,533	6,959	7,120
Law Enforcement Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships	69,274	77,604	72,697	0	0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration	0			0		
Total National Forest System	\$127,471	\$136,215	\$127,836	\$116,867	\$117,030	\$115,523
Wildland Fire Management						
Fire Preparedness	\$62,146	\$62,434	\$62,827	\$30,713	\$31,330	\$30,418
Fire Operations -- Suppression	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Fuels	14,043	14,668	16,197	23,832	23,942	25,924
Fire Research and Development (NFP)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Joint Fire Sciences	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance	2,059	5,242	6,604	3,441	8,411	6,502
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance	933	778	823	1,323	1,160	1,398
Total Wildland Fire Management	\$79,181	\$83,122	\$86,451	\$59,309	\$64,843	\$64,242
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance						
Facilities	\$3,672	\$4,853	\$3,459	\$6,898	\$5,985	\$5,566
Roads	14,721	14,471	14,909	15,864	16,629	17,438
Trails	10,656	11,126	10,147	8,040	8,396	7,997
Infrastructure Improvement	1,009	0	0	280	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails	0	0	0	2,782	3,165	2,986
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$30,058	\$30,449	\$28,515	\$33,864	\$34,175	\$33,987
Land Acquisition						
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$797	\$2,634	\$671	\$485	\$526	\$700
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition	\$797	\$2,634	\$671	\$485	\$526	\$700
Range Betterment Fund	\$0	\$261	\$0	\$0	\$481	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)	\$249,830	\$275,264	\$259,816	\$220,183	\$228,089	\$223,269
Permanent Working Funds	\$14,858	\$16,632	\$16,212	\$12,011	\$13,913	\$13,820
Trust Funds	\$11,861	\$12,263	\$12,333	\$11,230	\$11,369	\$11,434
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$276,550	\$304,159	\$288,361	\$243,425	\$253,371	\$248,524

1/ Totals do not include payment to States

2/ Permanent & Trust funds amounts = allocations for current year operations, not total receipts

3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Region 3 - Southwestern Region			Region 4 - Intermountain Region		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research				\$12	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$1	\$0
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands				\$1,620	\$1,866	\$1,852	\$3,055	\$3,133	\$3,173
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands				1,075	1,090	903	1,365	1,172	831
Forest Stewardship				521	521	520	398	406	407
Forest Legacy Program				3,117	2,551	156	180	2,659	2,804
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation				0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry				724	722	730	671	686	680
Landscape Scale Restoration				0	300	0	0	1,045	0
International Forestry				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State & Private Forestry				\$7,059	\$7,049	\$4,161	\$5,669	\$9,102	\$7,895
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration				\$6,136	\$4,849	\$5,780	\$2,691	\$2,635	\$2,541
Land Management Planning				3,939	4,412	5,058	1,472	1,322	1,345
Inventory and Monitoring				10,648	10,288	8,693	11,314	11,719	11,763
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness				22,703	22,945	21,447	25,142	25,521	24,819
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management				0	0	8	0	0	0
Grazing Management				10,274	10,137	10,024	10,530	10,483	10,347
Forest Products				0	0	0	0	0	0
Vegetation and Watershed Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Minerals and Geology Management				7,572	6,622	6,627	9,716	9,790	9,693
Landownership Management				4,995	5,093	5,060	6,416	6,478	6,207
Law Enforcement Operations				0	0	0	0	0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve				0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships				46,186	55,310	53,412	51,209	54,631	56,966
Integrated Resource Restoration				0			0		
Total National Forest System				\$112,452	\$119,655	\$116,109	\$118,491	\$122,579	\$123,682
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness				\$66,118	\$66,856	\$65,752	\$59,337	\$59,838	\$63,160
Fire Operations -- Suppression				0	0	0	0	1,284	1,284
Hazardous Fuels				26,545	26,528	39,613	20,409	20,558	22,698
Fire Research and Development (NFP)				0	0	0	0	0	0
Joint Fire Sciences				0	0	0	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance				962	2,419	3,107	977	2,810	3,355
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance				605	808	766	364	293	293
Total Wildland Fire Management				\$94,230	\$96,610	\$109,238	\$81,088	\$84,783	\$90,789
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities				\$5,061	\$6,268	\$4,966	\$4,982	\$5,131	\$5,245
Roads				14,728	15,107	16,026	15,403	16,749	14,625
Trails				3,790	4,161	4,263	7,695	8,206	8,035
Infrastructure Improvement				511	343	0	0	80	0
Legacy Roads and Trails				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance				\$24,090	\$25,879	\$25,254	\$28,080	\$30,167	\$27,905
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund				\$219	\$282	\$286	\$616	\$614	\$632
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts				0	0	0	46	475	317
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition				\$219	\$282	\$286	\$662	\$1,089	\$949
Range Betterment Fund				\$0	\$677	\$0	\$0	\$759	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)				\$238,062	\$250,154	\$255,048	\$233,989	\$248,479	\$251,219
Permanent Working Funds				\$13,402	\$11,894	\$11,867	\$35,012	\$26,132	\$26,043
Trust Funds				\$3,651	\$3,704	\$3,712	\$5,869	\$5,907	\$6,028
TOTAL ALL FUNDS				\$255,115	\$265,752	\$270,627	\$274,870	\$280,518	\$283,291

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3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Region 5 - Pacific Southwest Region			Region 6 - Pacific Northwest Region		
(dollars in thousands)		FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16		
Forest and Rangeland Research		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$88	\$88	\$107		
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands	\$3,567	\$3,911	\$3,905	\$6,387	\$6,487	\$6,401			
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands	2,683	2,401	1,873	2,989	2,773	2,486			
Forest Stewardship	1,063	1,055	1,073	714	736	752			
Forest Legacy Program	4,587	1,457	3,311	7,252	4,281	7,495			
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Urban and Community Forestry	2,572	2,423	2,757	815	809	791			
Landscape Scale Restoration	0	75	0	0	600	40			
International Forestry	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total State & Private Forestry	\$14,472	\$11,321	\$12,919	\$18,157	\$15,686	\$17,966			
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	\$3,201	\$2,429	\$2,808	\$7,947	\$7,237	\$7,830			
Land Management Planning	3,362	2,980	2,890	4,029	3,596	3,116			
Inventory and Monitoring	11,680	12,421	11,883	12,452	12,853	12,607			
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	26,307	26,740	25,683	26,559	26,867	25,425			
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management	14,142	13,517	13,565	17,393	17,608	18,465			
Grazing Management	3,668	3,737	3,695	4,643	4,617	4,725			
Forest Products	42,397	33,736	33,841	60,087	59,693	60,548			
Vegetation and Watershed Management	18,485	17,368	15,058	24,316	24,270	22,370			
Minerals and Geology Management	4,999	5,704	4,953	4,523	4,320	4,558			
Landownership Management	8,142	8,184	7,636	7,048	6,850	6,842			
Law Enforcement Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Valles Caldera National Preserve	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Restoration Partnerships	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Integrated Resource Restoration	0			0					
Total National Forest System	\$136,384	\$126,815	\$122,011	\$168,998	\$167,911	\$166,485			
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness	\$248,593	\$250,106	\$247,520	\$83,996	\$85,464	\$83,148			
Fire Operations -- Suppression	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Hazardous Fuels	51,128	50,732	51,595	29,442	31,856	33,405			
Fire Research and Development (NFP)	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Joint Fire Sciences	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance	6,887	7,647	6,943	5,251	7,569	5,217			
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance	1,075	1,081	1,016	745	920	921			
Total Wildland Fire Management	\$307,683	\$309,566	\$307,074	\$119,434	\$125,809	\$122,692			
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities	\$6,192	\$6,346	\$7,136	\$5,625	\$5,845	\$6,398			
Roads	16,148	16,435	15,806	21,887	21,408	21,281			
Trails	6,533	6,933	6,872	7,101	8,007	7,749			
Infrastructure Improvement	0	2,078	925	0	0	450			
Legacy Roads and Trails	4,914	5,501	5,255	6,429	7,040	6,762			
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$33,787	\$37,294	\$35,994	\$41,043	\$42,300	\$42,640			
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$687	\$826	\$986	\$687	\$668	\$766			
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts	866	475	317	0	0	0			
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total Land Acquisition	\$1,553	\$1,301	\$1,303	\$687	\$668	\$766			
Range Betterment Fund		\$0	\$129	\$0	\$0	\$229	\$0		
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)		\$493,879	\$486,426	\$479,302	\$348,406	\$352,691	\$350,657		
Permanent Working Funds		\$42,133	\$59,361	\$59,063	\$46,536	\$37,895	\$37,959		
Trust Funds		\$52,635	\$52,604	\$52,579	\$35,902	\$33,290	\$33,071		
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$588,647	\$598,391	\$590,943	\$430,844	\$423,875	\$421,688		

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3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Region 8 - Southern Regions			Region 9 - Eastern Region		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research				\$125	\$126	\$133	\$0	\$1	\$0
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands		\$7,600	\$8,315	\$7,698		\$23		\$25	\$13
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands		8,278	7,836	7,260		0		0	0
Forest Stewardship		5,116	5,315	5,396		0		0	0
Forest Legacy Program		5,789	8,476	15,990		0		0	0
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation		0	0	0		0		0	0
Urban and Community Forestry		5,821	5,705	5,610		0		0	0
Landscape Scale Restoration		0	4,587	60		0		0	0
International Forestry		0	0	0		0		0	0
Total State & Private Forestry		\$32,604	\$40,233	\$42,015		\$23		\$25	\$13
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration		\$6,259	\$7,159	\$5,758		\$917		\$851	\$951
Land Management Planning		3,903	3,188	3,038		1,484		1,413	1,306
Inventory and Monitoring		9,613	9,936	9,429		9,530		9,793	9,302
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness		27,664	28,185	25,545		22,025		23,395	22,947
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management		19,190	19,800	18,856		16,277		16,544	16,548
Grazing Management		618	631	727		596		618	637
Forest Products		33,911	35,405	36,001		40,990		41,142	43,951
Vegetation and Watershed Management		16,004	17,328	16,651		17,586		19,291	21,170
Minerals and Geology Management		4,884	4,541	4,428		5,780		5,635	5,432
Landownership Management		7,612	7,901	7,723		7,502		7,725	7,506
Law Enforcement Operations		0	0	0		0		0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve		0	0	0		0		0	0
Restoration Partnerships		0	0	0		0		0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration		0				0			
Total National Forest System		\$129,660	\$134,074	\$128,157		\$122,687		\$126,406	\$129,750
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness		\$38,416	\$39,048	\$39,022		\$24,472		\$24,611	\$25,181
Fire Operations -- Suppression		0	0	0		0		0	0
Hazardous Fuels		39,523	41,656	40,719		12,020		12,524	12,972
Fire Research and Development (NFP)		0	0	0		0		0	0
Joint Fire Sciences		0	0	0		0		0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance		16,737	17,202	17,200		75		75	75
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance		3,411	3,730	3,689		0		0	0
Total Wildland Fire Management		\$98,088	\$101,636	\$100,630		\$36,567		\$37,210	\$38,227
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities		\$7,970	\$8,117	\$7,642		\$8,354		\$6,038	\$5,267
Roads		17,713	18,037	19,038		14,031		14,417	17,095
Trails		7,542	8,133	7,924		6,481		6,882	6,337
Infrastructure Improvement		700	586	0		437		0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails		3,612	4,012	3,930		2,617		2,936	3,160
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance		\$37,537	\$38,885	\$38,533		\$31,920		\$30,274	\$31,858
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund		\$1,119	\$1,112	\$1,224		\$1,255		\$1,350	\$1,672
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts		0	0	316		0		0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges		0	0	0		0		0	0
Total Land Acquisition		\$1,119	\$1,112	\$1,540		\$1,255		\$1,350	\$1,672
Range Betterment Fund				\$0	\$1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)		\$299,133	\$316,067	\$311,008		\$192,452		\$195,266	\$201,521
Permanent Working Funds		\$30,629	\$27,281	\$27,089		\$22,240		\$22,700	\$22,547
Trust Funds		\$56,340	\$40,072	\$39,395		\$16,733		\$17,437	\$17,436
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$386,103	\$383,420	\$377,491		\$231,425		\$235,403	\$241,503

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3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Forest Products Lab		
Region 10 - Alaska Region						
(dollars in thousands)	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research	\$47	\$82	\$60	\$19,722	\$20,228	\$26,340
State & Private Forestry						
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands	\$1,569	\$2,091	\$1,814	\$0	\$0	\$0
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands	2,305	1,491	1,509	0	0	0
Forest Stewardship	538	554	543	0	0	0
Forest Legacy Program	60	47	56	0	0	0
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry	248	252	244	0	0	0
Landscape Scale Restoration	0	135	0	0	0	0
International Forestry	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State & Private Forestry	\$4,720	\$4,570	\$4,166	\$0	\$0	\$0
National Forest System						
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land Management Planning	977	1,117	1,370	0	0	0
Inventory and Monitoring	6,314	6,697	6,646	0	0	0
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	9,414	10,721	10,349	0	0	0
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management	10,504	10,595	9,448	0	0	0
Grazing Management	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Products	17,927	18,053	18,005	0	0	0
Vegetation and Watershed Management	5,327	5,004	5,291	0	0	0
Minerals and Geology Management	3,159	3,325	3,326	0	0	0
Landownership Management	4,098	4,336	4,333	0	0	0
Law Enforcement Operations	0	0	0	0	0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships	0	0	0	0	0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration	0			0		
Total National Forest System	\$57,720	\$59,849	\$58,769	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wildland Fire Management						
Fire Preparedness	\$2,946	\$2,914	\$3,038	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fire Operations -- Suppression	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Fuels	999	976	1,048	650	650	902
Fire Research and Development (NFP)	0	0	0	651	651	651
Joint Fire Sciences	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance	1,075	1,940	1,150	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance	372	111	105	0	0	0
Total Wildland Fire Management	\$5,392	\$5,942	\$5,341	\$1,301	\$1,301	\$1,553
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance						
Facilities	\$4,845	\$6,267	\$5,767	\$1,165	\$1,291	\$35
Roads	7,642	10,052	8,698	0	0	0
Trails	4,255	4,503	4,478	0	0	0
Infrastructure Improvement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails	478	540	563	0	0	0
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$17,220	\$21,363	\$19,507	\$1,165	\$1,291	\$35
Land Acquisition						
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$131	\$178	\$177	\$0	\$0	\$0
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition	\$131	\$178	\$177	\$0	\$0	\$0
Range Betterment Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$25	\$15	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses	\$2,076	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)	\$87,306	\$94,484	\$90,520	\$22,213	\$22,835	\$27,928
Permanent Working Funds	\$7,205	\$6,572	\$6,411	\$0	\$0	\$0
Trust Funds	\$6,062	\$5,155	\$5,181	\$450	\$450	\$450
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$100,572	\$106,211	\$102,112	\$22,663	\$23,285	\$28,378

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Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Rocky Mountain Research Station			Northern Research Station		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research				\$40,725	\$41,877	\$38,472	\$54,621	\$55,027	\$51,140
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands		\$0	\$186	\$499			\$80	\$35	\$20
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands		946	1,988	0			112	70	65
Forest Stewardship		182	252	189			0	0	0
Forest Legacy Program		0	0	0			85	65	65
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation		0	0	0			0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry		0	0	0			25	25	25
Landscape Scale Restoration		0	0	0			0	0	0
International Forestry		0	0	0			0	0	0
Total State & Private Forestry				\$1,128	\$2,426	\$688	\$302	\$195	\$175
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration		\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0
Land Management Planning		0	23	0			0	0	0
Inventory and Monitoring		0	45	0			0	0	0
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness		29	245	0			26	26	55
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management		0	315	265			0	0	0
Grazing Management		0	0	0			0	0	0
Forest Products		0	265	264			0	0	0
Vegetation and Watershed Management		42	307	306			0	0	0
Minerals and Geology Management		0	54	0			0	0	0
Landownership Management		0	36	0			0	0	0
Law Enforcement Operations		0	0	0			0	0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve		0	0	0			0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships		0	0	0			0	0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration		0					0		
Total National Forest System				\$71	\$1,290	\$836	\$26	\$26	\$55
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness		\$937	\$3,194	\$2,559			\$0	\$0	\$0
Fire Operations -- Suppression		0	1,266	1,266			0	0	0
Hazardous Fuels		1,045	1,589	2,901			48	57	57
Fire Research and Development (NFP)		6,911	6,746	6,606			2,944	2,944	2,944
Joint Fire Sciences		0	0	0			0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance		0	99	99			0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance		0	0	0			0	0	0
Total Wildland Fire Management				\$8,893	\$12,894	\$13,431	\$2,992	\$3,001	\$3,001
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities		\$985	\$438	\$2,219			\$506	\$708	\$25
Roads		0	0	0			0	0	0
Trails		0	0	0			0	0	0
Infrastructure Improvement		0	0	0			0	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails		0	0	0			0	0	0
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance				\$985	\$438	\$2,219	\$506	\$708	\$25
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0			\$0	\$0	\$0
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts		0	0	0			0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges		0	0	0			0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Range Betterment Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)				\$51,802	\$58,924	\$55,645	\$58,447	\$58,957	\$54,396
Permanent Working Funds				\$100	\$100	\$100	\$5	\$5	\$5
Trust Funds				\$700	\$700	\$700	\$500	\$500	\$500
TOTAL ALL FUNDS				\$52,602	\$59,724	\$56,445	\$58,952	\$59,462	\$54,901

1/ Totals do not include payment to States

2/ Permanent & Trust funds amounts = allocations for current year operations, not total receipts

3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Pacific Northwest Research Station			Pacific Southwest Research Station		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research				\$40,287	\$40,546	\$40,385	\$20,090	\$19,746	\$17,407
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands				\$349	\$171	\$294	\$49	\$35	\$0
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands				312	588	294	50	50	47
Forest Stewardship				0	0	0	0	49	49
Forest Legacy Program				0	0	0	0	24	24
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation				0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry				0	0	0	0	24	24
Landscape Scale Restoration				0	0	0	0	0	0
International Forestry				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State & Private Forestry				\$661	\$759	\$588	\$99	\$182	\$144
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land Management Planning				0	0	0	0	32	32
Inventory and Monitoring				452	912	642	0	0	0
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness				0	0	0	0	46	0
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Grazing Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Products				0	0	0	0	0	0
Vegetation and Watershed Management				151	0	181	0	27	27
Minerals and Geology Management				0	0	14	0	0	0
Landownership Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement Operations				0	0	0	0	0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve				0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships				0	0	0	0	0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration				0			0		
Total National Forest System				\$603	\$912	\$836	\$0	\$105	\$59
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness				\$0	\$0	\$54	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fire Operations -- Suppression				0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Fuels				239	114	382	0	0	0
Fire Research and Development (NFP)				4,082	4,082	4,082	2,690	2,690	2,690
Joint Fire Sciences				0	0	0	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance				0	0	0	0	24	24
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Wildland Fire Management				\$4,321	\$4,196	\$4,518	\$2,690	\$2,714	\$2,714
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities				\$830	\$228	\$2,140	\$689	\$1,070	\$26
Roads				0	0	0	0	0	0
Trails				0	0	0	0	0	0
Infrastructure Improvement				0	0	1,712	0	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance				\$830	\$228	\$3,852	\$689	\$1,070	\$26
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts				0	0	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Range Betterment Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)				\$46,702	\$46,641	\$50,179	\$23,568	\$23,817	\$20,351
Permanent Working Funds				\$35	\$32	\$32	\$1,120	\$220	\$220
Trust Funds				\$500	\$500	\$500	\$1,051	\$790	\$790
TOTAL ALL FUNDS				\$47,237	\$47,173	\$50,711	\$25,739	\$24,827	\$21,361

1/ Totals do not include payment to States

2/ Permanent & Trust funds amounts = allocations for current year operations, not total receipts

3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Southern Research Station			International Institute of Tropical Forestry		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research				\$48,278	\$48,187	\$46,505	\$3,582	\$3,829	\$3,714
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands				\$322	\$454	\$443	\$180	\$25	\$18
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands				513	230	341	258	358	298
Forest Stewardship				0	51	0	387	450	444
Forest Legacy Program				2	22	0	85	92	10
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation				0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry				0	6	0	416	476	434
Landscape Scale Restoration				0	0	0	0	0	0
International Forestry				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total State & Private Forestry				\$837	\$763	\$784	\$1,326	\$1,401	\$1,205
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land Management Planning				0	0	0	23	44	48
Inventory and Monitoring				452	361	550	0	0	0
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness				0	8	0	0	0	0
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Grazing Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Products				0	0	0	0	0	0
Vegetation and Watershed Management				151	361	181	35	128	145
Minerals and Geology Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Landownership Management				0	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement Operations				0	0	0	0	0	0
Valles Caldera National Preserve				0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships				0	0	0	0	0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration				0			0		
Total National Forest System				\$603	\$730	\$730	\$59	\$172	\$193
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness				\$0	\$80	\$80	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fire Operations -- Suppression				0	0	0	0	0	0
Hazardous Fuels				191	325	191	0	0	0
Fire Research and Development (NFP)				2,282	2,282	2,282	100	100	100
Joint Fire Sciences				0	0	0	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance				0	0	0	433	459	452
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance				0	0	0	112	28	28
Total Wildland Fire Management				\$2,473	\$2,687	\$2,553	\$645	\$587	\$580
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities				\$39	\$670	\$664	\$129	\$31	\$25
Roads				0	0	0	0	0	0
Trails				0	0	0	0	0	0
Infrastructure Improvement				0	0	0	0	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance				\$39	\$670	\$664	\$129	\$31	\$25
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts				0	0	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Range Betterment Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)				\$52,230	\$53,037	\$51,236	\$5,741	\$6,020	\$5,716
Permanent Working Funds				\$90	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$0
Trust Funds				\$1,005	\$405	\$405	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL ALL FUNDS				\$53,325	\$53,542	\$51,741	\$5,741	\$6,020	\$5,716

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Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				Northeastern Area - State & Private Forestry			Albuquerque Service Center		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,438	\$29,958	\$25,611
State & Private Forestry									
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands				\$10,568	\$7,342	\$7,476	\$4,796	\$4,607	\$3,501
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands				14,967	17,349	13,518	1,664	950	1,856
Forest Stewardship				6,618	6,726	6,683	839	840	811
Forest Legacy Program				21,870	12,449	19,796	488	445	434
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation				0	0	0	0	0	0
Urban and Community Forestry				8,925	9,018	8,933	854	828	836
Landscape Scale Restoration				0	3,427	70	0	0	0
International Forestry				0	0	0	629	613	585
Total State & Private Forestry				\$62,949	\$56,311	\$56,474	\$9,269	\$8,282	\$8,023
National Forest System									
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,313	\$3,530	\$3,712
Land Management Planning				0	0	0	3,744	3,655	3,494
Inventory and Monitoring				0	0	0	13,707	11,985	10,756
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness				0	0	0	35,221	31,673	29,602
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management				0	0	0	9,910	9,809	9,798
Grazing Management				0	0	0	6,082	5,278	5,436
Forest Products				0	0	0	33,413	30,069	33,980
Vegetation and Watershed Management				0	0	0	12,408	12,759	12,417
Minerals and Geology Management				0	0	0	7,066	6,843	6,391
Landownership Management				0	0	0	8,402	7,481	7,214
Law Enforcement Operations				0	0	0	12,919	13,891	12,069
Valles Caldera National Preserve				0	0	0	0	0	0
Restoration Partnerships				0	0	0	0	0	0
Integrated Resource Restoration				0			0		
Total National Forest System				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$145,185	\$136,972	\$134,869
Wildland Fire Management									
Fire Preparedness				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,723	\$100,430	\$101,925
Fire Operations -- Suppression				0	0	0	58,810	59,596	51,846
Hazardous Fuels				254	255	405	23,852	23,437	21,485
Fire Research and Development (NFP)				0	0	0	0	0	0
Joint Fire Sciences				0	0	0	0	0	0
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance				13,316	13,653	13,283	784	771	766
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance				4,085	4,091	3,961	0	0	0
Total Wildland Fire Management				\$17,655	\$17,999	\$17,649	\$184,170	\$184,234	\$176,022
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Improvement & Maintenance									
Facilities				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,459	\$5,534	\$5,657
Roads				0	0	0	15,486	14,568	13,532
Trails				0	0	0	8,205	6,922	7,382
Infrastructure Improvement				0	0	0	0	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails				0	0	0	1,372	1,328	957
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$31,521	\$28,352	\$27,529
Land Acquisition									
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,019	\$658	\$639
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts				0	0	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges				0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Land Acquisition				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,019	\$658	\$639
Range Betterment Fund				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$286	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)				\$80,604	\$74,310	\$74,123	\$400,888	\$388,456	\$372,693
Permanent Working Funds				\$42	\$846	\$46	\$3,307	\$3,546	\$3,430
Trust Funds				\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,382	\$6,417	\$5,573
TOTAL ALL FUNDS				\$80,646	\$75,156	\$74,169	\$410,577	\$398,420	\$381,696

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3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station, and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes direct program + cost pool funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016				National		
(dollars in thousands)				FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research	\$22,728	\$24,769	\$27,397	\$12,976	\$11,493	\$13,689
State & Private Forestry						
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands	\$7,378	\$7,632	\$7,874	\$4,387	\$4,943	\$6,626
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands	1,592	910	1,170	1,598	2,881	5,150
Forest Stewardship	3,161	3,226	3,150	1,163	1,132	1,237
Forest Legacy Program	1,306	1,251	1,189	382	3,413	643
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation	0	0	0	2,000	2,000	2,000
Urban and Community Forestry	2,367	2,558	2,514	2,103	1,955	1,897
Landscape Scale Restoration	0	0	0	14,000	1,486	13,823
International Forestry	7,191	7,208	7,165	180	180	251
Total State & Private Forestry	\$22,995	\$22,786	\$23,061	\$25,815	\$17,989	\$31,628
National Forest System						
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	\$468	\$696	\$909	\$533	\$1,913	\$1,400
Land Management Planning	8,598	8,845	8,409	1,135	1,066	1,735
Inventory and Monitoring	39,310	39,729	41,572	4,796	4,002	4,798
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	18,516	15,492	25,995	8,569	8,369	10,922
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management	7,408	7,208	7,828	4,704	3,570	4,715
Grazing Management	2,084	3,184	3,355	1,647	1,471	2,422
Forest Products	17,622	17,557	23,824	9,567	8,052	13,006
Vegetation and Watershed Management	18,134	17,747	20,897	7,859	5,406	6,593
Minerals and Geology Management	8,482	8,778	8,918	2,001	3,833	4,765
Landownership Management	8,629	8,404	8,779	2,566	2,182	3,610
Law Enforcement Operations	8,024	8,323	7,183	105,710	104,439	107,401
Valles Caldera National Preserve	0	0	0	3,364	3,364	0
Restoration Partnerships	289	600	1,521	3,042	2,176	1,648
Integrated Resource Restoration	0			2,000		
Total National Forest System	\$137,564	\$136,565	\$159,191	\$157,492	\$149,844	\$163,016
Wildland Fire Management						
Fire Preparedness	\$258,688	\$249,590	\$292,618	\$80,494	\$169,944	\$65,319
Fire Operations -- Suppression	78,631	94,214	160,768	543,047	551,640	595,836
Hazardous Fuels	13,714	13,110	17,697	24,567	70,697	62,808
Fire Research and Development (NFP)	0	165	25	135	135	415
Joint Fire Sciences	0	0	0	6,914	6,914	6,914
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance	2,911	2,851	4,792	23,090	6,829	8,431
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Wildland Fire Management	\$353,944	\$359,930	\$475,900	\$678,247	\$806,158	\$739,722
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$315,000	\$303,060	\$823,000
Capital Improvement & Maintenance						
Facilities	\$3,777	\$5,318	\$6,173	\$2,822	\$1,461	\$2,981
Roads	5,266	5,918	8,014	7,109	4,302	5,632
Trails	2,526	2,349	3,440	2,177	1,911	2,905
Infrastructure Improvement	63	63	63	0	0	0
Legacy Roads and Trails	387	389	337	409	344	1,307
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance	\$12,020	\$14,037	\$18,027	\$12,517	\$8,018	\$12,826
Land Acquisition						
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$195	\$348	\$261	\$36,315	\$38,303	\$55,419
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges	0	0	0	217	216	216
Total Land Acquisition	\$195	\$348	\$261	\$36,532	\$38,519	\$55,635
Range Betterment Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$2,320
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15	\$30	\$45
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses	\$56	\$0	\$0	\$81	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)	\$549,502	\$558,435	\$703,839	\$1,241,675	\$1,335,111	\$1,841,881
Permanent Working Funds	\$18,028	\$18,417	\$1,567	\$1,847	\$1,415	\$19,752
Trust Funds	\$2,397	\$2,365	\$2,507	\$2,197	\$1,798	\$3,130
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$569,927	\$579,217	\$707,912	\$1,245,719	\$1,338,324	\$1,864,764

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3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Region, Station and Area Allocations FY 2014 to FY 2016

Includes <u>direct program + cost pool</u> funding allocated to Regions, Stations, Areas, ASC and the National Headquarters in Washington, DC FY 2014 to FY 2016		FOREST SERVICE TOTAL		
<i>(dollars in thousands)</i>		FY14	FY15	FY16
Forest and Rangeland Research		\$292,805	\$296,000	\$291,000
State & Private Forestry				
Forest Health Management - Federal Lands		\$58,922	\$58,923	\$58,922
Forest Health Management - Cooperative Lands		45,655	45,655	\$40,678
Forest Stewardship		22,398	23,036	\$23,036
Forest Legacy Program		50,965	53,000	\$62,347
Community Forest & Open Space Conservation		2,000	2,000	\$2,000
Urban and Community Forestry		28,040	28,040	\$28,040
Landscape Scale Restoration		14,000	14,000	\$14,000
International Forestry		8,000	8,000	\$8,000
Total State & Private Forestry		\$229,980	\$232,654	\$237,024
National Forest System				
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration		\$40,000	\$40,000	\$40,000
Land Management Planning		37,754	37,754	36,998
Inventory and Monitoring		151,019	151,019	147,998
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness		261,719	261,720	261,719
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management		109,466	109,106	109,035
Grazing Management		55,356	55,356	56,856
Forest Products		286,130	273,570	294,245
Vegetation and Watershed Management		134,716	134,135	134,206
Minerals and Geology Management		76,423	76,423	76,423
Landownership Management		77,730	77,730	77,730
Law Enforcement Operations		126,653	126,653	126,653
Valles Caldera National Preserve		3,364	3,364	0
Restoration Partnerships		170,000	190,321	186,244
Integrated Resource Restoration		2,000		
Total National Forest System		\$1,532,330	\$1,537,151	\$1,548,108
Wildland Fire Management				
Fire Preparedness		\$1,057,580	\$1,145,840	\$1,082,620
Fire Operations -- Suppression		680,488	708,000	\$810,999
Hazardous Fuels		282,500	333,672	\$351,000
Fire Research and Development (NFP)		19,795	19,795	\$19,795
Joint Fire Sciences		6,914	6,914	\$6,914
Coop Fire Protection-State Fire Assistance		78,000	78,000	\$78,000
Coop Fire Protection-Volunteer Fire Assistance		13,025	13,000	\$13,000
Total Wildland Fire Management		\$2,138,301	\$2,305,222	\$2,362,328
FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve Fund		\$315,000	\$303,060	\$823,000
Capital Improvement & Maintenance				
Facilities		\$71,000	\$71,600	\$71,390
Roads		166,000	168,094	172,094
Trails		75,000	77,530	77,530
Infrastructure Improvement		3,000	3,150	3,150
Legacy Roads and Trails		23,000	25,257	25,257
Total Capital Improvement & Maintenance		\$338,000	\$345,630	\$349,421
Land Acquisition				
Land Acquisition -- Land and Water Conservation Fund		\$43,525	\$47,499	\$63,435
Acquisition of Lands for National Forests, Special Acts		912	950	950
Acquisition of Lands to Complete Land Exchanges		217	216	216
Total Land Acquisition		\$44,654	\$48,665	\$64,601
Range Betterment Fund		\$3,000	\$2,537	\$2,320
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research		\$40	\$45	\$45
Management of NF Lands for Subsistence Uses		\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
TOTAL Forest Service (DISCRETIONARY)		\$4,896,611	\$5,073,464	\$5,680,346
Permanent Working Funds		\$248,600	\$247,061	\$246,262
Trust Funds		\$215,465	\$195,724	\$195,725
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$5,360,676	\$5,516,249	\$6,122,333

1/ Totals do not include payment to States

2/ Permanent & Trust funds amounts = allocations for current year operations, not total receipts

3/ FLAME, Law Enforcement, and Land Acquisition Funds managed at the National level

Forest Service Research and Development Field Unit Budget Report

Introduction

This report was produced in accordance with the FY 2018 Congressional direction and is information presented with the Forest Service's annual Budget Justification and related briefing materials. The report provides detailed information on Forest Service Research and Development (R&D) activities and expenditures undertaken at facilities across the country.

Congressional direction motivating this report.

"The Service is directed to update the report provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that describes its research program in detail. The report should be transmitted as part of the fiscal year 2018 budget request. It should include information on each research laboratory, including their relationship to the research stations, their goals and purpose, the funding provided for each of the previous five fiscal years, the funding proposed to be provided in fiscal year 2018, the allocation of funding between research and administrative costs, the allocation of funding and projects between in-house and extramural research, and the number of scientists and support staff. The report also should include similar information for each research station." --*Joint Explanatory Statement, Division G, for the Fiscal Year 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act, H.R. 2029*

Forest Service R&D Program Overview and Station Budget Summary

America's forested ecosystems are a major national strategic asset that provide many social, ecological and economic benefits. The Forest Service's broad and complex portfolios of natural resources and policy issues across public and private lands. The foundation of these efforts and decisions are grounded in sound science that is primarily conducted by Forest Service R&D. Science-based management is fundamental to restoring, enhancing and sustainably reaping ecological, social, environmental benefits from, the Nation's forests and grasslands. The agency's Strategic Plan identifies four goals: Sustain our Nation's Forests and Grasslands, Deliver Benefits to the Public, Apply Knowledge Globally, and Excel as a High Performing Agency. (Research is aligned with land management efforts undertaken by National Forest System and State & Private Forestry.) Sustainable management of the nation's forests and rangelands is at the forefront of contemporary policy and land management decisions today. To effectively inform policy and guide actions, science must address complex ecological and human social processes, variability, largescale natural disturbances, urbanization, bioenergy, globalization, and the rapid growth of knowledge. Forest Service R&D leads the way and provides cutting-edge science in an environment of economic/jobs, ever changing public values, and evolving research partnerships.

Forest Service R&D installations and activities are distributed across the fifty states and Puerto Rico. Field level research is administered by a national laboratory, an international institute and five research Stations. The Washington office provides national level coordination, assessment and communication. Each station conducts research through one or more research work units, whose activities are distributed across their respective regions depending on the nature of the research.

The five stations, one national laboratory, and one international institute are:

- Forest Products Laboratory (FPL). Headquarters in Madison, WI. Focused on wood technology development.
- International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF). Headquarters in Río Piedras, Puerto Rico. Focused on tropical forestry research.

The following five stations all provide research on a broad range of forestry issues spanning the biological, physical and social sciences:

- Northern Research Station (NRS). HQ in Newtown Square, PA
- Pacific Northwest Research Station (PNW). HQ in Portland, OR
- Pacific Southwest Research Station (PSW). HQ in Albany, CA
- Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS). HQ in Fort Collins, CO
- Southern Research Station (SRS). HQ in Asheville, NC

The stations are funded primarily through the Forest and Rangeland Research appropriation budget line item, with additional funding being provided through the Joint Fire Science Program and the National Fire Plan budget line items (Table 1) below under Wildland Fire Management. Funds arising from inter-agency and intra-agency grants, agreements and other instruments may also provide additional funding resources.

Table 1 Forest Service Research and Development unit allocations by Research Station and fiscal years
(dollars in thousands)

Station	Budget Line Item	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Forest Product Laboratory	Research	\$21,001	\$17,816	\$19,722	\$20,228	\$26,320	\$26,320	\$22,167
	Other	5,211	1,901	2,941	3,057	2,058	2,058	1,733
	Total	26,212	19,717	22,663	23,285	28,377	28,377	23,900
International Institute of Tropical Forestry	Research	2,393	2,228	2,530	2,691	2,713	2,713	2,285
	Other	2,885	2,959	,211	3,329	3,003	3,003	2,529
	Total	5,278	5,187	5,741	6,020	5,716	5,716	4,814
Northern Research Station	Research	54,484	51,538	54,621	55,027	51,043	51,043	42,988
	Other	4,985	5,932	4,331	4,435	3,859	3,859	3,250
	Total	59,469	57,470	58,952	59,462	54,902	54,902	46,238
Pacific Northwest Research Station	Research	40,258	38,152	40,287	40,546	40,346	40,346	33,979
	Other	6,721	9,043	6,950	6,627	10,365	10,365	8,729
	Total	46,979	47,195	47,237	47,173	50,711	50,711	42,708
Pacific Southwest Research Station	Research	19,674	18,579	20,090	19,746	17,381	17,381	14,638
	Other	6,670	4,970	5,649	5,081	3,979	3,979	3,352
	Total	26,344	23,549	25,739	24,827	21,361	21,361	17,990
Rocky Mountain Research Station	Research	40,500	37,799	40,725	41,877	38,394	38,394	32,335
	Other	13,383	15,324	11,877	17,847	18,051	18,051	15,203
	Total	53,883	53,123	52,602	59,724	56,445	56,445	47,538
Southern Research Station	Research	48,242	45,097	48,278	48,187	46,414	46,414	39,090
	Other	8,321	6,234	5,047	5,355	5,327	5,327	4,486
	Total	56,563	51,331	53,325	53,542	51,741	51,741	43,576
Grand Total		\$274,728	\$257,572	\$266,259	\$274,033	\$269,253	\$269,253	\$226,764

Forest Products Laboratory

The Forest Products Laboratory (FLP) is the Nation's leading Federal wood utilization research laboratory and serves the entire United States. The FLP develops innovative science and technology to conserve, extend and sustainably utilize forest resources to improve health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forest to meet the needs of current and future generations.

**Forest Product Laboratory Field Unit Allocations and
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories**

(dollars in thousands)

Forest Product Laboratory	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Research & Development	\$17,816	\$19,722	\$20,228	\$26,320	\$26,320	\$22,167
Other funding*	1,901	2,941	3,057	2,058	2,058	1,733
Total Allocation	\$19,717	\$22,663	\$23,285	\$28,378	\$28,378	\$23,900
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	65	63	58	55	55	46
Support Staff (SY)	107	104	99	98	55	83
Administrative Support				36		
Professional/Technical Support				62		
Breakout by Administrative and Research Allocations						
Administrative Allocation	\$5,915	\$6,7990	\$8,019	\$7,958	\$7,958	\$6,702
Research Allocation	13,802	15,864	15,266	20,420	18,362	\$17,198
Total by Administrative & Research Allocations	\$19,717	\$22,663	\$23,285	\$28,378	\$26,320	\$23,900
Breakout by In-House and Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	\$18,731	\$21,530	\$22,201	\$22,551	\$20,493	\$18,993
Extramural Funding**	986	1,133	1,084	5,827	5,827	4,907
Total by In-House & Extramural Funding	\$19,717	\$22,663	\$23,285	\$28,378	26,320	\$23,900

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems.

**Includes interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

Forest Products Laboratory Research Programs

(dollars in thousands)

Description of Research Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Composites Science Research						
Allocation	\$1,671	\$1,875	\$1,875	\$2,659	\$2,659	\$2,239
Scientists (SY)	5	5	5	6	6	5
Support Staff (SY)	3	3	3	3	3	3
Forest Materials Modification Research						
Allocation	2,616	2,905	2,905	3,676	3,676	3,096
Scientists (SY)	9	9	9	9	9	8
Support Staff (SY)	4	4	5	5	5	4
Fiber & Chemical Sciences						
Allocation	2,919	3,205	3,205	3,747	3,747	3,156
Scientists (SY)	6	6	6	6	6	5
Support Staff (SY)	8	8	8	8	8	7
Microbial & Biochemical Research						
Allocation	2,506	2,790	2,790	3,197	3,197	2,693
Scientists (SY)	6	6	6	6	6	5
Support Staff (SY)	7	6	5	5	5	4

Description of Research Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Engineered Properties & Structures						
Allocation	3,206	3,500	3,180	4,314	4,314	4,379
Scientists (SY)	10	10	10	7	7	7
Support Staff (SY)	1	2	1	1	1	1
Wood Anatomy & Forest Mycology in a Changing Global Environment						
Allocation	N/A	N/A	320	634	634	534
Scientists (SY)	N/A	N/A	2	3	3	3
Support Staff (SY)	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0
Fire Building Sciences						
Allocation	N/A	N/A	260	735	735	619
Scientists (SY)	N/A	N/A	3	2	2	2
Support Staff (SY)	N/A	N/A	5	5	5	4
Durability & Wood Protection Research						
Allocation	2,746	3,050	3,296	3,608	3,608	3,039
Scientists (SY)	8	7.5	6	8	8	7
Support Staff (SY)	12	12	12	13	13	11
Economics & Statistics Research						
Allocation	2,152	3,397	2,397	3,750	3,750	3,158
Scientists (SY)	9	9	8	8	8	7
Support Staff (SY)	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total Allocations	\$17,816	\$19,722	\$20,228	\$26,320	\$26,320	\$22,167
Total Scientists (SY)	53	52	55	55	55	48
Total Support Staff (SY)	36	36	40	41	41	35

International Institute of Tropical Forestry

Forest Service Research and Development delivers research on tropical forests through the International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF). The IITF is located in Río Piedras, Puerto Rico and is dedicated to tropical forestry on an international level and develops and exchanges knowledge critical to sustaining tropical ecosystem benefits. The IITF serves as a focal point for bringing external research and educational resources to bear on issues affecting tropical forests and grasslands.

International Institute of Tropical Forestry Field Unit Allocations and Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories

(dollars in thousands)

International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF)	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Research & Development	\$2,228	\$2,530	\$2,691	\$2,713	\$2,713	\$2,285
Other funding*	2,959	3,211	3,329	3,003	3,003	2,529
Total Allocation	\$5,187	\$5,741	\$6,020	\$5,716	\$5,716	\$4,814
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	10	9	11	11	11	9
Support Staff (SY)	16	14	14	16	16	13
Administrative Support				0		
Professional/Technical Support				27		
Breakout by Administration and Research Allocations						
Administrative Allocation	\$1,437	\$1,390	\$1,390	\$1,390	\$1,390	\$1,171
Research Allocation	3,750	4,351	4,630	4,326	4,326	3,643

International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF)	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Total by Administrative & Research Allocations	\$5,187	\$5,741	\$6,020	\$5,716	\$5,716	\$4,814
Breakout by In-House & Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	\$4,783	\$5,325	\$5,761	\$5,457	\$5,457	\$4,596
Extramural Funding**	404	416	259	259	259	218
Total by In-House & Extramural Funding	\$5,187	\$5,741	\$6,020	\$5,716	\$5,716	\$4,814

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems.

**Includes, interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

International Institute of Tropical Forest Station Facilities

(dollars in thousands)

Name	Description	Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
International Institute of Tropical Forestry Headquarters	Forest Service owned facilities on leased land. Headquarters building is leased.	3	16	\$340
Sabana Field Research Station	Forest Service owned Station	3	provided by HQ	37
Total		6	16	\$377

Northern Research Station

The mission of the Northern Research Station (NRS) is to improve people's lives and help sustain the natural resources in the Northeast and Midwest through leading-edge science and effective information delivery. The NRS geographically covers a twenty state region across the Midwest and Northeast, comprising both the most densely populated and heavily forested region in America.

Northern Research Station Field Unit Allocations and Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories

(dollars in thousands)

Northern Research Station	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimate	FY 2018 Estimate
Research & Development	\$51,538	\$54,621	\$55,027	\$51,043	\$51,043	\$42,988
Other funding*	5,932	4,331	4,435	3,859	3,859	3,250
Total Allocation	\$57,470	\$58,952	\$59,462	\$54,902	\$54,902	\$46,238
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	142	142	138	127	127	107
Support Staff (SY)	309	288	277	274	274	231
Administrative support				72		
Professional/Technical Support				202		
Breakout by Administrative & Research Allocation						
Administrative Allocation	\$9,196	\$9,432	\$9,640	\$8,570	\$8,570	\$7,217
Research Allocation	48,274	49,520	49,822	46,332	42,473	39,021
Total by Administrative & Research Allocation	\$57,470	\$58,952	\$59,462	\$54,902	\$51,043	\$46,238
Breakout by In-House & Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	49,999	51,288	50,988	48,045	44,186	47,365
Extramural Funding**	7,471	7,664	8,474	6,857	6,857	6,960
Total by In-House & Extramural Funding	\$57,470	\$58,952	\$59,462	\$54,902	\$51,043	\$46,238

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems.

**Includes interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

Northern Research Station Research Programs

(dollars in thousands)

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Ecology & Economic Sustainability of the Appalachian Forest in an Era of Globalization Research						
Allocation	\$3,260	\$3,380	\$3,380	\$3,111	\$3,111	\$2,620
Scientists (SY)	9	9	9	9	9	8
Support Staff (SY)	21	16	15	16	16	13
Sustaining Forests in a Changing Environment						
Allocation	3,317	3,455	3,410	2,991	2,991	2,519
Scientists (SY)	12	12	12	12	12	10
Support Staff (SY)	17	14	15	10	10	8
Ecology & Management of Invasive Species & Forest Ecosystems Research						
Allocation	4,639	4,639	4,599	4,176	4,176	3,517
Scientists (SY)	13	12	11	10	10	8
Support Staff (SY)	26	22	23	21	21	18
Forest Inventory & Analysis in the Northern States						
Allocation	15,168	16,023	16,844	16,902	16,902	17,353
Scientists (SY)	23	22	22	20	20	21
Support Staff (SY)	111	109	110	95	95	98
Climate, Fire & Carbon Cycle Analysis Research						
Allocation	3,195	2,700	2,700	3,175	3,175	2,674
Scientists (SY)	16	16	16	12	12	10
Support Staff (SY)	17	13	13	17	17	14
Research on Ecosystem Change						
Allocation	7,198	7,592	7,312	5,619	5,619	4,732
Scientists (SY)	18	17	17	13	13	11
Support Staff (SY)	23	23	26	18	18	15
Urban Forest, Human Health & Environmental Quality Research						
Allocation	1,612	1,848	1,828	3,226	3,226	2,717
Scientists (SY)	3	2	3	11	11	9
Support Staff (SY)	8	8	8	8	8	7
Social Science Supporting Natural Resource Management & Policy						
Allocation	2,939	3,108	3,103	1,717	1,717	1,446
Scientists (SY)	10	11	11	7	7	6
Support Staff (SY)	7	6	7	3	3	3
Sustainable Management of Central Hardwoods, Ecosystems & Landscapes Research						
Allocation	1,501	1,690	1,665	1,283	1,283	1,081
Scientists (SY)	6	6	6	5	5	4
Support Staff (SY)	6	5	2	3	3	3
Applied Ecosystem Research: Theory & Application of Scaling Science in Forestry						

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Allocation	1,661	1,828	1,828	1,701	1,701	1,433
Scientists (SY)	6	6	6	6	6	5
Support Staff (SY)	13	10	12	12	12	10
Hardwood Tree Improvement & Regeneration Center						
Allocation	896	959	1,024	1,024	1,024	862
Scientists (SY)	4	4	4	3	3	3
Support Staff (SY)	1	1	1	3	3	3
Strategic Foresight Research						
Allocation	0	1,200	1,400	1,014	1,014	854
Scientists (SY)	0	4	4	3	3	3
Support Staff (SY)	0	2	2	2	2	2
Restoration & Conservation of Rural & Urban Forests Research						
Allocation	0	5,300	5,300	5,101	5,101	4,296
Scientists (SY)	0	17	17	17	17	14
Support Staff (SY)	0	18	18	18	18	15
Total Allocation	\$45,386	\$53,722	\$54,393	\$51,040	\$51,040	\$46,104
Total Scientists (SY)	120	138	138	128	128	112
Total Support Staff (SY)	250	247	252	226	226	209

Northern Research Station Facilities

(dollars in thousands)

Name	Description	Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
Hamden/Ansonia, CT	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices, and the Ansonia Quarantine Lab	3	11	\$285
Evanston, IL	Forest Service leased administrative space near Northwestern University	4	4	130
West Lafayette, IN	Perdue University administrative offices and laboratories	3	3	120
Amherst MA	University of Massachusetts administrative office	3	6	90
Baltimore, MD	Forest Service leased administrative space	3	6	120
Oromo/Bradley, ME	University of Maryland office	1	1	0
Lansing, MI	Forest Service leased administrative space near Michigan State University	5	5	190
Houghton, MI	Forest Service lab and administrative offices on Michigan Tech Campus	3	6	120
Grand Rapids, MN	Forest Service laboratory and administrative offices	4	11	200
St. Paul, MN	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices on University of Minneapolis Campus	15	36	275
Columbia, MO	University of Missouri administrative and laboratory offices	6	4	0
Durham, NH	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative office on University of New Hampshire campus	14	16	325
Syracuse, NY	SUNY administrative office	1	6	25
New York, NY	Forest Service leased administrative space	3	1	90
Newtown Square, PA (Station Headquarters)	Forest Service administrative space	7	27	442
Delaware, OH	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices	11	11	187
Warren, PA	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices	6	7	90

Name	Description	Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
Burlington, VT	Forest Service laboratory and administrative offices on University of Vermont campus	3	7	28
Madison, WI	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices	5	9	70
Rhineland, WI	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices	7	8	200
Morgantown, WV	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices on West Virginia campus	6	11	250
Parsons, WV	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices	3	12	90
Princeton, WV	Forest Service laboratory and administrative offices	4	5	90
Total		120	213	\$3,417

Pacific Northwest Research Station

The mission of the Pacific Northwest Station (PNW) is to generate and communicate impartial knowledge to help people understand and make informed choices about natural resource management and sustainability.

Pacific Northwest Research Station Field Unit Allocations and Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories

(dollars in thousands)

Pacific Northwest Research Station	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Research & Development	\$38,152	\$40,287	\$40,546	\$40,346	40,346	\$33,979
Other funding*	9,043	6,950	6,627	10,365	10365	8,729
Total Allocation	\$47,195	\$47,237	\$47,173	\$50,711	\$50,711	\$42,708
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	78	76	74	72	72	61
Support Staff (SY)	190	198	209	208	208	175
Administrative Support			75			
Professional/Technical Support			134			
Breakout by Administrative Research Allocation						
Administrative Allocation	\$10,946	\$10,826	\$11,742	\$13,324	\$13,324	11,221
Research Allocation	36,249	36,411	35,431	37,387	37,387	31,487
Total by Administrative & Research Allocations	\$47,195	\$47,237	\$47,173	\$50,711	\$50,711	\$42,708
Breakout by In-House & Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	\$38,117	\$37,733	\$42,225	\$42,939	\$42,939	\$36,162
Extramural Funding**	9,078	9,504	4,948	7,772	7,772	6,546
Total by In-House & Extramural Funding	\$47,195	\$47,237	\$47,173	\$50,711	\$50,711	\$42,708

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems.

**Includes interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

Pacific Northwest Research Station Research Programs*(dollars in thousands)*

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Ecological Process and Function						
Allocation	\$8,143	\$8,198	\$7,384	\$7,120	\$7,280	\$5,996
Scientists (SY)	17	16	16	15	15	13
Support Staff (SY)	20	16	20	23	23	19
Goods, Services and Values						
Allocation	4,244	5,205	3,982	5,246	5,364	4,418
Scientists (SY)	14	13	14	14	14	12
Support Staff (SY)	2	2	2	3	3	3
Land and Watershed Management						
Allocation	6,832	6,201	5,465	5,621	5,748	4,734
Scientists (SY)	13	13	14	13	13	11
Support Staff (SY)	19	20	22	21	21	18
Resource Monitoring and Assessment						
Allocation	14,616	14,382	13,252	10,868	11,112	11,158
Scientists (SY)	13	13	13	12	12	12
Support Staff (SY)	81	84	83	79	75	81
Threat Characterization and Management						
Allocation	7,908	9,027	7,341	8,619	8,813	7,259
Scientists (SY)	18	18	17	16	16	13
Support Staff (SY)	9	9	15	9	10	8
Total Allocation	\$41,743	\$43,013	\$37,424	\$37,474	\$38,317	\$33,565
Total Scientists (SY)	75	73	74	70	70	61
Total Support Staff (SY)	131	131	142	135	132	129

Pacific Northwest Research Station Facilities*(dollars in thousands)*

Name	Description	Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
Station Director's Office	General Service Administration leased space	9	29	\$435
Anchorage	General Service Administration leased space	18	1	248
Corvallis	Pacific Northwest Owned Space	45	13	1,162
Fairbanks	Leased Space from University of Arkansas	1	0	0
Juneau	Pacific Northwest Owned Space	10	4	154
La Grande	Pacific Northwest Owned Space	10	5	128
Olympia	Pacific Northwest Owned Space	15	4	157
Portland	General Service Administration leased space	41	7	546
Prineville	Leased Space from Forest Supervisor's Office	2	1	50
Seattle	General Service Administration leased Space	18	3	508
Sitka	Leased Space through Agreement	2	0	29
Wenatchee	Pacific Northwest Owned Space	7	3	177
Total		178	70	\$3,594

Pacific Southwest Research Station

The Pacific Southwest Research Station (PSW) provides research to inform management and conservation efforts in the unique ecosystems of California, Hawaii, and the U.S. affiliated Pacific Islands. These include the nation's lowest and driest desert, the highest elevations within the 48 contiguous States, and rich native plant and animal diversity, including nearly half of the nation's threatened and endangered species. The PSW delivers its mission through five broad Program Areas: Conservation Biology, Ecosystem Function and Health; Fire and Fuels; Institute of Pacific Island Forestry; and Urban Ecosystems and Social Dynamics.

**Pacific Southwest Research Station Field Unit Allocations and
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories**
(dollars in thousands)

Pacific Southwest Research Station	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Research & Development	\$18,579	\$20,090	\$19,746	\$17,381	\$17,381	\$14,638
Other funding*	4,970	4,839	5,081	3,980	3,980	3,352
Total Allocation	\$23,549	\$25,739	\$24,827	\$21,361	\$21,361	\$17,990
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	42	40	38	38	40	40
Support Staff (SY)	106	105	107	107	107	107
<i>Administrative Support</i>				32		
<i>Professional/Technical Support</i>				75		
Breakout by Administrative & Research Allocation						
Administrative Allocation	\$9,090	\$9,076	\$8,047	\$7,323	\$7,323	\$6,167
Research Allocation	14,459	16,663	16,780	14,038	14,038	11,823
Total by Administrative & Research Allocation	\$23,549	\$25,739	\$24,827	\$21,361	\$21,361	\$17,990
Breakout by In-House & Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	21,119	23,404	23,476	20,115	20,115	16,941
Extramural Funding**	2,430	2,335	1,351	1,246	1,246	1,049
Total by In-House & Research Allocation	\$23,549	\$25,739	\$24,827	\$21,361	\$21,361	\$17,990

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems

**Includes interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

Pacific Southwest Research Station Research Programs
(dollars in thousands)

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Conservation Biology						
Allocation	\$3,500	\$3,860	\$3,980	\$3,700	\$3,700	\$3,116
Scientists (SY)	11	11	10	10	10	8
Support Staff (SY)	19	22	22	22	22	19
Ecosystem Function and Health						
Allocation	3,880	3,935	4,150	3,950	4,200	3,327
Scientists (SY)	12	12	11	10	11	8
Support Staff (SY)	16	17	17	17	17	14
Fire and Fuels						
Allocation	2,585	2,455	2,455	2,500	2,500	2,106
Scientists (SY)	7	7	7	7	7	6
Support Staff (SY)	16	16	16	16	16	13
Institute for Pacific Island Forestry						
Allocation	1,810	1,875	1,900	1,850	2,000	1,558
Scientists (SY)	7	6	6	6	7	5
Support Staff (SY)	8	8	8	8	8	7
Urban Ecosystems and Social Dynamics						
Allocation	1,380	1,380	1,270	1,300	1,400	1,095
Scientists (SY)	5	4	5	5	5	4
Support Staff (SY)	5	4	3	3	3	3

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Total Allocation	\$13,155	\$13,505	\$11,055	\$13,300	\$13,800	\$11,202
Total Scientists (SY)	45	40	39	38	40	31
Total Support Staff (SY)	64	67	66	66	66	56

Pacific Southwest Station Facilities/Administrative Locations

(dollars in thousands)

Name	Description of Location	Research Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
Albany, CA	Station Headquarters – space is co-located with and leased from Agricultural Research Service, near University of California-Berkeley	3	29	\$223
Arcata, CA	Space co-located with Humboldt State University – primarily watershed, wildlife, and fisheries research	5	15	90
Davis, CA	Located near University of California-Davis and has Pacific Southwest largest lab	8	12	495
Fresno, CA	Space co-located with Cal State-Fresno. Provides access to Sierra Nevada and at the San Joaquin Experimental Range	2	3	80
Hilo, HI	Location of the Institute for Pacific Island Forestry	6	13	21
Placerville, CA	Houses the Institute of Forest Genetics and provided a central location in the Sierra Nevada for partnerships and research	1	8	80
Redding, CA	Space co-located with Forest Service Region 5 and provides a central location in Northern California for partnerships and research	5	8	300
Riverside, CA	Primary Southern California office, located near University of California – Riverside	8	21	150
Total		38	109	\$1,439

Rocky Mountain Research Station

The Rocky Mountain Research Station (RMRS) develops and delivers scientific knowledge and innovative technology to improve the health and use of the Nation's forests and rangelands – both public and private. The 12 non-coastal western States comprise the core geography of the RMRS. This territory comprises 15 distinct ecoregions, and overlaps/serves four National Forest System Regions (including 52 National Forests, 17 National Grasslands, over 101million acres of Forest Service managed land). Straddling the Continental Divide, the RMRS domain has both maritime and continental climates, and our biogeography spans a gradient from dry desert to grassland/shrublands and to alpine tundra.

Rocky Mountain Research Station Field Unit Allocations and Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories

(dollars in thousands)

Rocky Mountain Research Station	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Research & Development	\$37,799	\$40,725	\$41,877	\$38,394	\$38,394	\$32,335
Other funding*	15,324	11,877	17,847	18,051	18,051	15,203
Total Allocation	\$53,123	\$52,602	\$59,724	\$56,445	\$56,445	\$47,538
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	103	95	93	94	94	79
Support Staff (SY)	385	352	342	321	321	270
Administrative Support				100		

Rocky Mountain Research Station	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Professional/Technical Support				221		
Breakout by Administrative and Research Allocations						
Administrative Allocation	\$7,441	\$7,593	\$7,696	\$7,932	\$7,932	\$6,680
Research Allocation	45,682	45,009	52,028	48,513	48,513	40,858
Total by Administrative & Research Allocations	\$53,123	\$52,602	\$59,724	\$56,445	\$56,445	\$47,538
Breakout by In-House and Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	\$48,213	\$46,517	\$53,658	\$47,899	\$47,899	\$40,341
Extramural Funding**	4,910	6,085	6,066	8,546	8,546	7,197
Total by In-house & Extramural Funding	\$53,123	\$52,602	\$59,724	\$56,445	\$56,445	\$47,538

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems.

**Includes interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

Rocky Mountain Research Station Research Programs

(dollars in thousands)

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Forest and Woodland Ecosystems Research						
Allocation	\$6,313	\$6,145	\$5,554	\$5,168	\$5,168	\$4,352
Scientists (SY)	19	18	17	17	17	14
Support Staff (SY)	38	34	29	28	28	24
Grasslands, Shrublands and Deserts Research						
Allocation	3,300	3,234	3,020	2,960	2,960	2,493
Scientists (SY)	15	14	13	13	13	11
Support Staff (SY)	29	24	23	19	19	16
Wildlife and Terrestrial Ecosystems Research						
Allocation	2,649	2,994	2,394	2,474	2,474	2,084
Scientists (SY)	12	12	11	11	11	9
Support Staff (SY)	32	26	25	20	20	17
Air, Water and Aquatic Environments Research						
Allocation	3,826	3,666	3,942	3,942	3,597	3,320
Scientists (SY)	16	15	14	14	14	12
Support Staff (SY)	37	33	34	25	25	21
Fire, Fuels and Smoke Research						
Allocation	4,493	5,246	4,931	5,072	5,072	4,272
Scientists (SY)	20	15	16	17	17	14
Support Staff (SY)	58	49	49	51	51	43
Inventory and Monitoring						
Allocation	9,664	10,633	10,620	11,591	11,591	11,900
Scientists (SY)	4	3	3	3	3	3
Support Staff (SY)	106	96	103	96	96	99
Human Dimensions Research						
Allocation	2,668	2,532	2,946	3,133	3,133	2,639
Scientists (SY)	15	15	14	14	14	12
Support Staff (SY)	20	13	13	16	16	13

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Aldo Wilderness Research Institute						
Allocation	849	757	1,050	1,245	1,245	1,049
Scientists (SY)	2	3	3	3	3	3
Support Staff (SY)	1	4	6	5	5	4
Total Allocations	\$33,762	\$35,207	\$34,457	\$35,585	\$35,240	\$32,109
Total Scientists	103	95	91	92	92	78
Total Support Staff	321	279	282	260	260	237

Rocky Mountain Research Station Laboratory Facilities

(dollars in thousands)

Facility Name	Scientists	Support Personnel	Facility Costs
Ft. Collins, CO	20	60	\$407
Missoula Forestry Lab, MT	17	25	192
Missoula Fire Lab, MT	13	43	283
Bozeman, MT	4	9	96
Albuquerque, NM	2	7	239
Flagstaff, AZ	7	13	244
Ogden, UT	3	44	466
Provo, UT	4	7	123
Logan, UT	1	4	192
Moscow, ID	10	21	239
Boise, ID	6	23	201
Reno	1	3	61
Rapid City	1	3	61
Total	89	262	\$2,804

Southern Research Station

The mission of Southern Research Station (SRS) is to improve people's lives and help sustain the natural resources in the Southeast through leading-edge science and effective information delivery. SRS is one of the largest forestry research stations in the world extending across 13 States, comprising both the most densely populated and heavily forested region in America. SRS's internal capacity for scientific research is enriched and extended through 19 experimental forests and networks of partnerships with other researchers, practitioners, and volunteers from a variety of groups and organizations.

Southern Research Station Field Unit Allocations and Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories

(dollars in thousands)

Southern Research Station	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Research & Development	\$45,097	\$48,278	\$48,187	\$46,414	\$46,414	\$39,090
Other funding*	6,234	5,047	5,355	5,327	5,327	4,486
Total Allocation	\$51,331	\$53,325	\$53,542	\$51,741	\$51,741	\$43,576
Staffing by Science and Administrative Categories						
Scientists (SY)	114	110	102	105	101	88
Support Staff (SY)	288	284	278	274	278	231
Administrative Support				94		
Professional/Technical Support				180		
Breakout by Administrative and Research Allocation						
Administrative Allocation	\$6,338	\$6,857	\$7,732	\$6,505	\$6,505	\$5,478

Research Allocation	44,993	46,468	45,810	45,236	45,236	38,098
Total by Administrative & Research Allocation	\$51,331	\$53,325	\$53,542	\$51,741	\$51,741	\$43,576
Breakout by In-House and Extramural Funding						
In-House Allocation	\$45,744	\$46,670	\$47,316	\$45,554	\$45,554	\$38,365
Extramural Funding	5,587	6,655	6,226	6,187	6,187	5,211
Total by In-House & Extramural Funding	\$51,331	\$53,325	\$53,542	\$51,741	\$51,741	\$43,576

*Other funding is from State and Private Forestry and National Forest Systems.

**Includes interagency agreements, fire hubs in Joint Fire Science, etc.

Southern Research Station Research Programs

(dollars in thousands)

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Bottomland Hardwoods Research						
Allocation	\$4,566	\$4,855	\$5,047	\$4,289	\$4,282	\$3,612
Scientists (SY)	16	16	14	15	15	13
Support Staff (SY)	19	19	19	18	18	15
Forest Disturbance Science						
Allocation	961	1,208	1,176	1,060	1,017	893
Scientists (SY)	8	8	7	7	7	6
Support Staff (SY)	14	15	11	12	12	10
Upland Hardwood Ecology and Management Research						
Allocation	2,255	2,324	2,526	2,339	2,445	1,970
Scientists (SY)	7	7	7	8	8	7
Support Staff (SY)	12	11	17	15	15	13
Longleaf Pine Ecosystems Restoration Research						
Allocation	2,048	2,318	2,030	1,770	1,702	1,491
Scientists (SY)	7	6	4	5	5	4
Support Staff (SY)	10	9	8	7	7	6
Southern Pine Ecology and Management Research						
Allocation	1,831	2,498	2,585	2,293	2,583	1,931
Scientists (SY)	6	6	5	5	5	4
Support Staff (SY)	12	11	15	15	15	13
Forest Genetics Research						
Allocation	2,942	3,190	2,947	2,449	2,402	2,063
Scientists (SY)	6	6	5	6	6	5
Support Staff (SY)	14	14	13	12	12	10
Watershed Science Research						
Allocation	3,121	3,268	3,270	2,825	2,826	2,379
Scientists (SY)	11	11	12	12	12	10
Support Staff (SY)	22	21	18	17	17	14
Research on Insects, Diseases and Invasive Plants						
Allocation	4,647	4,729	3,670	3,064	2,850	2,581
Scientists (SY)	10	9	9	8	8	7
Support Staff (SY)	21	24	13	13	13	11
Forest Operations Research						
Allocation	977	1,023	958	842	904	709

Description of Program	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
Scientists (SY)	3	2	2	2	2	2
Support Staff (SY)	7	7	5	5	5	4
Utilization of Southern Forest Resources						
Allocation	1,790	1,705	1,865	1,635	1,487	1,377
Scientists (SY)	5	5	4	4	4	3
Support Staff (SY)	6	5	5	5	5	4
Forest Inventory and Analysis in the South						
Allocation	13,852	14,592	15,436	17,653	17,653	18,124
Scientists (SY)	13	13	13	13	13	13
Support Staff (SY)	72	70	78	81	81	83
Forest Economics and Policy Research						
Allocation	1,278	1,284	1,369	1,168	1,128	1,145
Scientists (SY)	6	5	5	5	5	5
Support Staff (SY)	6	6	6	6	6	6
Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center						
Allocation	1,898	2,483	2,395	2,057	2,006	2,036
Scientists (SY)	10	9	8	8	8	8
Support Staff (SY)	16	16	13	13	13	13
Total Allocations	\$42,166	\$45,477	\$45,274	\$43,444	\$43,285	\$43,935
Total Scientists (SY)	108	103	95	98	98	85
Total Support Staff (SY)	231	228	221	219	219	199

Southern Research Station Facilities/Administrative Locations

(dollars in thousands)

Name	Description of Location	Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
Asheville, NC	Forest Service Headquarters Building	6	50	\$59
Bent Creek/Koen Asheville, NC	Forest Service laboratory, greenhouse & administrative offices	4	4	61
Coweeta Otto, NC	Forest Service owned hydrologic laboratory	5	7	125
Research Triangle Park, Durham, NC	Forest Service owned laboratory and greenhouses	8	13	117
Auburn/Escambia Auburn, AL	Forest Service owned laboratory and greenhouse	3	12	85
Crossett, AR	Forest Service owned administrative office	0	3	1
Crossett Experimental Forest, Crossett, AR	Forest Service administrative office	0	2	5
Athens/Hitchiti Athens, GA	Forest Service owned laboratory and administrative offices	15	18	190
Pineville/Palustris Pineville, LA	Forest Service owned laboratory and greenhouse	8	19	51
Saucier/Harrison Saucier, MS	Forest Service owned laboratory and greenhouse	1	6	23
Stoneville/Oxford Stoneville, MS	Forest Service owned laboratory and greenhouse	7	9	85
Santee Cordesville, SC	Forest Service laboratory and administrative offices	2	4	49
Savannah Rover New Ellenton, SC	Forest Service owned administrative office	1	5	1
Nacogdoches Nacogdoches, TX	Forest Service owned laboratory	2	8	5

Name	Description of Location	Scientists	Support Staff	Facility Costs
Blacksburg Blacksburg VA	Forest Service owned laboratory	4	3	1
Total		66	163	\$858

Note: Facilities costs are maintenance costs only and do not include rent, communication, or utilities of \$1,422,447.

Forest Service Research and Development Expenditures by State
(dollars in thousands)

State	Station	FY2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Estimates	FY 2018 Estimates
ALABAMA	SRS	\$2,497	\$2,497	\$2,534
ALASKA	PNW	\$11,891	\$11,891	\$12,069
ARIZONA	RMRS	\$3,589	\$3,589	\$3,643
ARKANSAS	SRS	\$1,852	\$1,852	\$1,880
CALIFORNIA	PSW	\$15,664	\$15,664	\$15,899
COLORADO	RMRS	\$8,873	\$8,873	\$9,006
CONNECTICUT	NRS	\$2,177	\$2,177	\$2,210
DELAWARE	NRS	No in-state R&D facilities*		
FLORIDA	SRS	\$745	\$745	\$756
GEORGIA	SRS	\$3,226	\$3,226	\$3,274
HAWAII	PSW	\$2,550	\$2,550	\$2,588
IDAHO	RMRS	\$3,760	\$3,760	\$3,816
ILLINOIS	NRS	\$1,202	\$1,202	\$1,220
INDIANA	NRS	\$1,024	\$1,024	\$1,039
IOWA	NRS	No in-state R&D facilities*		
KANSAS	RMRS	No in-state R&D facilities*		
KENTUCKY	SRS	\$441	\$441	\$448
LOUISIANA	SRS	\$4,212	\$4,212	\$4,275
MAINE	NRS	\$337	\$337	\$342
MARYLAND	NRS	\$1,434	\$1,434	\$1,455
MASSACHUSETTS	NRS	\$1,270	\$1,270	\$1,289
MICHIGAN	NRS	\$2,935	\$2,935	\$2,979
MINNESOTA	NRS	\$8,796	\$8,796	\$8,928
MISSISSIPPI	SRS	\$5,819	\$5,819	\$5,906
MISSOURI	NRS	\$2,331	\$2,331	\$2,366
MONTANA	RMRS	\$5,545	\$5,545	\$5,628
NEBRASKA	RMRS	No in-state expenditures listed**		
NEVADA	RMRS	\$345	\$345	\$350
NEW HAMPSHIRE	NRS	\$5,407	\$5,407	\$5,488
NEW JERSEY	NRS	\$227	\$227	\$230
NEW MEXICO	RMRS	\$969	\$969	\$984
NEW YORK	NRS	\$3,027	\$3,027	\$3,072
NORTH CAROLINA	SRS	\$9,194	\$9,194	\$9,332
NORTH DAKOTA	RMRS	No in-state R&D facilities*		
OHIO	NRS	\$2,973	\$2,973	\$3,018
OKLAHOMA	SRS	No in-state R&D facilities*		
OREGON	PNW	\$26,407	\$26,407	\$26,803
PENNSYLVANIA	NRS	\$7,559	\$7,559	\$7,672
PUERTO RICO	IITF	\$2,720	\$2,720	\$2,761
RHODE ISLAND	NRS	No in-state R&D facilities*		
SOUTH CAROLINA	SRS	\$2,458	\$2,458	\$2,495
SOUTH DAKOTA	RMRS	\$811	\$811	\$823
TENNESSEE	SRS	\$14,616	\$14,616	\$14,835
TEXAS	SRS	\$1,518	\$1,518	\$1,541
UTAH	RMRS	\$15,434	\$15,434	\$15,665
VERMONT	NRS	\$913	\$913	\$927
VIRGINIA	SRS	\$996	\$996	\$1,011
WASHINGTON	PNW	\$6,959	\$6,959	\$7,063
WEST VIRGINIA	NRS	\$5,404	\$5,404	\$5,485
WISCONSIN	FPL	\$26,320	\$26,320	\$26,714
WISCONSIN	NRS	\$4,027	\$4,027	\$4,087
WYOMING	RMRS	No in-state expenditures listed**		

Stewardship Contracting

Background

This special exhibit is included to address requirements of Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (as amended, 16 U.S.C 6591c):

“The Forest Service shall report annually to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives on -

- the status of development, execution, and administration of contracts under subsection (b);
- the specific accomplishments that have resulted; and
- the role of local communities in development of agreements or contract plans.”

Overview

Stewardship contracts and agreements are used to manage natural resources by implementing ecosystem restoration projects. Stewardship contracts support new and emerging markets to use wood removed through restoration activities, including using woody biomass for energy, in addition to sustaining traditional markets. Requests for proposals use best value selection that evaluates criteria such as capability, use of local workforce and creation of jobs in addition to price. This focus is intended to create green jobs and promote a diverse forest products industry to support sustainable communities and the forest contractor infrastructure needed to perform critical restoration work. Stewardship contracting helps the Forest Service achieve land and natural resource management goals while promoting closer public-private working relationships by using the value of timber or other forest products to offset the cost of restoration activities.

The number of stewardship contracts and agreements awarded has levelled out over the past three to four years as the economy moderates. However, a better understanding of how to best use stewardship contracts has resulted in projects of larger size.

The Stewardship Authority

The stewardship contracting authority authorizes the Forest Service, via agreement or contract, to enter into stewardship projects to perform services to achieve land management goals and meet local and rural community needs. Temporary authority was granted under the Department of the Interior and Related Appropriations Act, 1999 (16 USC 2104 note) (P.L. 105-277, div. A, Sec. 101(e), [title III, Sec. 347], Oct. 21, 1998, Stat. 2681-231, and amended by Department of the Interior and Related Appropriations Act, 2003 (P.L. 108-7, div. F, [title III, Sec. 323], Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 275). The Agricultural Act of 2014 (2014 Farm Bill) permanently extended stewardship contracting authority by amendment to the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (16 USC 6591c).

Stewardship contracting permits the Forest Service to apply the value of timber or other forest products from stewardship sales as an offset against the costs to accomplish additional land and resource management objectives. If the offset value exceeds the value of the resource improvement treatments, those receipts are retained and deposited in the Stewardship Contracting fund and are available, until expended, for other authorized stewardship projects. Stewardship contracts are awarded on a best-value basis and may be up to 10 years in duration. The Stewardship Contracting authority may be used for:

- maintaining or removing roads and trails to restore or maintain water quality;
- improving soil productivity, habitat for wildlife and fisheries, or other resources;
- prescribed fires to improve the composition, structure, condition, and health of timber stands or wildlife habitat;
- removing vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forests, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives;
- restoring and maintaining watersheds;
- restoring and maintaining wildlife and fisheries habitat;
- controlling noxious and invasive weeds; and

- replanting native vegetation.

In FY 2016, the agency continued to inform employees, partner organizations, and contractors about stewardship contracting through brochures, local field trips, and both live and on-line training opportunities. This ensures a common understanding of stewardship contracting and facilitates its use in attaining land management goals while meeting local and rural community needs.

Specific Accomplishments

Stewardship contracting allows the Forest Service to focus on a variety of land management activities and accomplish restoration work where it is needed. Through stewardship contracting we accomplish hazardous fuels reduction, wildlife habitat improvement, forest health improvement, and nonnative invasive plant species control.

Stewardship contracting has proved to be a valuable tool in many locations to implement restoration activities and meet multiple land management objectives. Table 1 below shows specific actual accomplishments during FY 2013 to FY 2016. Table 2 below shows the acres awarded, number of contract or agreements awarded, and volume awarded from FY 2003 to FY 2016. The number of contracts or agreements awarded includes those where forest products are exchanged for service activities as well as those where excess Stewardship Contracting funds are used to pay for service activities without the exchange of forest products.

In many cases, multiple land management objectives are met through a single treatment activity. For example, a hazardous fuel reduction treatment can also improve wildlife habitat. These accomplishments not only result in ecosystem benefits, but also forest products for manufacturing and energy production, and the creation of jobs contributing to sustainable communities.

Local Communities

Collaboration with local communities is a key component of successful stewardship contracting. Collaborative efforts start early and continue throughout project planning, implementation, and monitoring. Collaboration during the development of stewardship contracting projects results in a sense of ownership in the project by the community, a better understanding by communities of natural resource issues, and increased public support. Collaboration also means the Forest Service can tailor stewardship offerings that address local issues, needs, and capabilities.

We have contracted with the Pinchot Institute for Conservation to conduct a programmatic multiparty monitoring process for FY 2016. In prior years, the Pinchot Institute found that stewardship contracting was maturing, and support has grown significantly. One of the major benefits identified is that stewardship contracting offers increased opportunities to frame a set of collaboratively defined desired future conditions. Participants increasingly welcome the use of stewardship agreements as a way to involve more stakeholders, increase learning opportunities, and positively influence forest management planning. In the FY 2015 report, Pinchot concluded that while individual project results may vary, partnerships and working relationships tend to grow through collaboration and allow projects to move forward. The results of the FY 2016 programmatic monitoring efforts by the Pinchot Institute will be available in early spring of 2017. When available, the entire report will be online at:

http://www.pinchot.org/gp/Stewardship_Contracting

**Table 1. Actual Stewardship Contracting
Accomplishments (FY 2013 to FY 2016)**

Accomplishment	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Actual	FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Actual
Acres of forest vegetation established	3,391	5,167	6,865	5,050
Acres of forest vegetation improved	36,925	50,399	44,702	42,634
Acres of noxious weeds/invasive plant treatments	2,746	4,035	3,024	5,434
Acres of wildlife habitat restored or improved	72,578	15,679	66,744	22,133
Miles of stream habitat restored or enhanced	44	15	82	48
Miles of roads decommissioned	43	21	29	10
Volume of timber sold (million board feet (MMBF))	709	816	829	718
Green tons of biomass made available for energy production	865,560	247,541	323,830	217,698
Acres of hazardous fuels treated to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires (Non-WUI)	130,190	82,894	66,169	79,694
Acres of wildland-urban interface (WUI) high-priority hazardous fuels treated	69,150	96,567	73,072	96,387
Number of stewardship contracts/agreements contributing to watersheds in fully functioning condition	17	25	1	2

**Awarded, Number of Contract or Agreements
Awarded, and Volume Awarded (FY 2003 to FY 2016)**

Fiscal Year	Acres Awarded	Number of Contracts & Agreements	Volume Awarded (hundred cubic feet - MBF)
2003	11,696	35	35,000
2004	43,187	53	51,000
2005	34,491	43	98,000
2006	60,344	91	236,000
2007	77,676	110	331,000
2008	65,890	130	339,000
2009	88,304	141	372,000
2010	152,834	232	567,000
2011	100,577	208	481,000
2012	134,257	226	672,000

Fiscal Year	Acres Awarded	Number of Contracts & Agreements	Volume Awarded (hundred cubic feet - MBF)
2013	171,767	195	709,000
2014	177,208	161	816,000
2015	166,317	168	829,000
2016	166,462	225	718,000

Stewardship Contracting with Local Communities

Texas

Since 2012, the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas (NFGT) has awarded more than 40 stewardship contracts and agreements, with a timber value in excess of \$9 million dollars. The sale or exchange of timber resulted in \$2 million dollars in stewardship activities, collection of \$2.6 million for Knutson-Vandenberg projects, and the potential to collect more than \$4.4 million dollars in retained receipts for additional stewardship projects.

Activities completed with these stewardship projects include:

- supported prescribed burning on more than 600,000 acres;
- flood recovery projects in East Texas to stabilize soils and provide fish passage;
- felled more than 8,000 drought-killed hazard trees along roads, trails, campgrounds, and private land boundaries;
- repairing a historic dam on the NFGT whose spillway is in danger of failing;
- marked more than 4,000 acres of timber for sale with the help of Tribal Partners and Small Business (8A) Contractors;
- installed artificial cavities for the endangered Red Cockaded Woodpecker;
- completed a watershed restoration project on one mile of creek;
- removed non-native invasive plants on more than 350 acres;
- planted native longleaf pine on 50 acres following a wildfire; and
- created and maintained over 15 acres of wildlife openings.

Colorado

The Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forests use stewardship contracting and agreements as the foundation to implement forest restoration work on the Uncompahgre Plateau Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP). From 2010 – 2016, the forest awarded eight integrated resource service contracts and one stewardship agreement to complete forest restoration activities on 7,358 acres, including the sale of 65,816 hundred cubic feet (CCF) of timber within the CFLRP project boundary. The GMUG National Forests entered into a stewardship agreement with Mule Deer Foundation that has increased the scope and scale of wildlife habitat improvement and forest restoration projects by increasing the Forest's capacity to prepare projects for implementation. The stewardship agreement with the Mule Deer Foundation has also generated 2,378 CCF of timber volume. The GMUG National Forests are presently working with the National Wild Turkey Federation to add another stewardship agreement to further increase the forests' capacity to complete forest restoration and wildlife habitat improvement.

Pennsylvania

The Allegheny National Forest (ANF) has partnered with the Kane Area School District (KASD) in stewardship agreements since 2009. This project has occurred over several phases and continues to improve. The KASD secured a USDA Woody Biomass Energy Grant in 2007, which provided for the purchase and installation of heating systems that utilize woody biomass. The Marienville Ranger District of the Allegheny National Forest entered into a stewardship agreement with the KASD from 2009-2014 to provide woody material used to heat the school, in exchange for service work completed on the ANF. A second agreement was approved in 2015 and includes the following activities and

services:

- Supply at least 1,200 tons of fuelwood to the Kane Area School District annually
- Reconstruct a Forest Service road to reduce sedimentation and improve water quality
- Install a bottomless culvert to allow for fish passage and improve aquatic species
- Provide fuelwood to local communities
- Implement reforestation treatments
- Remove timber for acid deposition remediation pond constructed to improve water quality and 12 miles of Eastern Brook Trout habitat in Bear Creek
- Incorporate educational opportunities for students to learn about natural resources, technology, and multi-media during project implementation and monitoring

Wyoming

The Bighorn National Forest has awarded five individual stewardship contracts between 2010 and 2015. The most recent example, the Swamp Stewardship project, utilized the Integrated Resource Timber Contract to achieve objectives of reducing hazardous fuels in a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), aspen release, and increasing diversity in forested stands. The contract commercially harvested 595 acres, yielding over 8,000 CCF of sawtimber and non-sawtimber products. Posts and poles from this sale filled a local mill's yard and sawtimber was utilized at the nearest large sawmill. Local contractors were used for some of the operations. Stewardship contracting allowed the forest to commercially harvest and non-commercially treat existing fuels and release aspen stands from conifer competition in a single contract. This one contract exceeded the forest's annual aspen treatment goal. Without Stewardship authority this work would have taken multiple contracts and entries and most likely would not have utilized as much timber. The 2005 Forest Plan revision has a strategy to "evaluate each vegetation project for its potential and feasibility as a stewardship contract, where appropriate, design treatments to facilitate stewardship projects." To meet this strategy the forest has used Integrated Resource Timber and Service Contracts. Changing markets and direction make this a challenge, but being able to accomplish the work with one contract in one entry has gained the forest support for this approach.

Michigan

The Hiawatha National Forest utilizes stewardship timber contracts, agreements, and retained receipts to achieve a variety of resource related goals through the sale of timber products. In Michigan's Upper Peninsula, U.S. Highway 2 passes through a Great Lakes Dunes ecosystem along the north shore of Lake Michigan. This dune system provides habitat for several rare wildlife and plant species. Scotch pine is not native to Michigan and was aggressively seeding into the dunes. Due to their unstable sandy condition, logging equipment was not appropriate to use on the dunes. Under the Bowline stewardship contract the logging contractor hired a tree service company to cut and scatter all Scotch pine trees over a 300-acre area. Retained receipts from this stewardship contract were also used to enter into an agreement with the Chippewa County Road Commission for a major culvert replacement project on Little Bear Creek where the county provided 20 percent of the funding. The objective of the project was to improve aquatic organism passage (AOP) and the free flowing characteristic of this creek, and reduce sediment entering the creek at the road crossing.

Two additional AOP improvement projects were completed on Black Creek and a tributary to Black Creek through a stewardship agreement with Alger County Road Commission. These AOP's are the final improvement projects to complete within this high priority watershed for the Forest Service. They are also a high priority cold water fishery for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Additional stewardship agreements are being planned with three county road commissions for fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

Arizona

The Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest makes extensive use of stewardship contracts in the east side of the Four Forest Restoration Initiative CFLRP area. A biomass market is present in this region and has been a "best value" criteria for awarding stewardship contracts to harvest both biomass and commercial timber in one entry.

In the past two fiscal years, nine stewardship contracts have been awarded on the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest,

treating over 18,000 acres. These treatments not only provide forest products to the local industry, but also reduce the risk of crown and stand replacing fires within the project area. These projects serve to protect private property and infrastructure to the east and north of the project areas. The end result of the contracts will protect critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl and the northern goshawk, as well as other species, from uncontrolled wildfire. In addition, the project areas are designed to provide a defensible space north of the Mogollon Rim to allow firefighters to possibly stop or reduce the intensity of a fire originating below the Mogollon Rim.

Transition to Second Growth in Alaska

Background

The State of Alaska and Forest Service State and Private Forestry program have entered into a \$4 million Challenge Cost Share Agreement (CCSA) to conduct a young growth inventory and support workforce development for the timber industry. The inventory is well underway, and local residents have been successfully trained and are now working in various forestry-related jobs in Southeast Alaska.

Inventory Efforts

State and partner organization crews have collected data on over 11,000 acres of older young growth stands on Prince of Wales and surrounding islands. Forest Service and State personnel are summarizing the data collected into stand-level analyses of logging feasibility to determine how many of those older young growth acres will be operable during near-term project implementation. Another 13,000 acres are scheduled for inventory in 2017.

Seven Southeast Alaska residents were trained and hired for inventory work under the agreement in 2016. The State and Forest Service anticipate bringing on additional local hire crew members in 2017.

Old-Growth Bridge Timber

Forest Service crews on Prince of Wales, Ketchikan, and Petersburg are also focused on stand-level, data-driven inventories of old-growth timber stands to support timber sales in the current five-year sale schedule. The State and Tongass National Forest are in discussions about bringing in additional support for old-growth inventory under the CCSA. The Forest Service and Alaska Forest Association have developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to support collaborative efforts on old-growth inventory, project development, and organizational learning around timber sale conditions impacting the industry. This MOU is expected for signature in the second quarter of 2017, with implementation of specific tasks during the 2017 field season.

Other Ongoing Efforts in Support of the Transition

The Forest Service and other landowners in Southeast Alaska have established an all-landowners group to coordinate operations, find efficiencies, and share infrastructure to support resource management activities. Group members include Forest Service, Alaska Division of Forestry, Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office, University of Alaska, and Sealaska.

To support utilization of wood products from the forest, the agency also is evaluating potential design of a wood quality study to determine the type, volume, and quality of products that can be manufactured from young growth Sitka spruce and western hemlock trees growing in Southeast Alaska.

The Alaska Region and the State of Alaska have entered into an agreement and are currently in the process of developing a Supplemental Project Agreement for the Koscuisko Young Growth timber sale, which is expected to be offered and sold in late FY 2017 or early FY 2018.

The Forest Service is also continuing the Tongass-wide Young Growth Study, begun in 2002, to increase knowledge of silvicultural practices for various purposes including young growth management.

Sixty-Five year-old Stand that has not been Thinned

There is little commercially valuable timber in the stand at the moment, but there will be some in ten to twenty years. The photo shows some natural tree mortality occurring due to competition between tightly-packed trees for nutrients, water, and sunlight. “Thinning” means cutting some trees to reduce the space between them. This reduces the competition for nutrients, sunlight, and water so the remaining trees can grow in a healthy manner. The photos below show various stands of young-growth trees on the Tongass and the benefits of thinning those trees.

Sixty-year-old Precommercially Thinned Stand

Since the trees have been thinned, the remaining trees have less competition. This stand of trees is free to grow. Some commercial timber volume is available in this stand, and it will be even more viable in about 10 years. Wildlife forage species are present, but on the decline due to shade from canopy closure as the stand matures.

Age Class Distribution of Young Growth Stands Across the Tongass National Forest



The majority of the acreage occurs in stands 50 years and younger. Commercial viability begins at approximately age 60, depending upon the site and precommercial thinning. The Tongass currently pre-commercially thins 4,000-6,000 acres per year, and needs to increase that to 8,000-9,000 acres per year to keep up with growth in the younger age classes. A near-term transition to a young-growth dependent harvest program is going to be challenging and yet the future, 10-20 years out, looks very promising.

Unobligated Balances

Background

This exhibit is not required by Congressional direction but is included to provide an update on the status of Forest Service unobligated balances.

Overview

The following table contains the Forest Service unobligated balances from all prior year appropriated funds (regular and emergency) carried forward into FY 2017. The table does not include the unobligated balances from offsetting collections such as reimbursable or advanced collections.

FY 2016 Forest Service - Unobligated Balances, End of Year

(dollars in thousands)

Forest Service Appropriation Budget Line Item/Programs	Prior Years Unobligated Balances
Forest and Rangeland Research	
Research and Development	\$5,959
National Fire Plan (NFP) Research Activities	2,099
Joint Fire Science	4,452
Total Forest and Rangeland Research	\$12,510
State and Private Forestry (S&PF)	
Forest Health - Federal Lands	\$7,976
Forest Health - Coop Lands	6,609
State Fire Assistance ¹	1,352
Volunteer Fire Assistance ¹	38
Forest Stewardship	3,190
Urban and Community Forestry	3,567
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program	320
International Forestry	9,116
NFP Forest Health - Federal Lands	0
NFP Forest Health - Coop Lands	0
NFP State Fire Assistance ¹	4,321
NFP Volunteer Fire Assistance ¹	51
Other	2,067
Total State and Private Forestry³	\$38,607
S&PF Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	
S&PF LWCF (Forest Legacy)	\$29,707
Total S&PF LWCF	\$29,707
National Forest System	
Land Management Planning	\$3,047
Inventory & Monitoring	1,598
Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness	3,191
Wildlife and Fisheries Habitat Management	-879
Grazing Management	2,564
Restoration Partnership	1
Forest Products	-4,071
Vegetation and Watershed Management	1,362
Minerals and Geology Management	7,709
Landownership Management	-4,187

FY 2016 Forest Service - Unobligated Balances, End of Year
(dollars in thousands)

Forest Service Appropriation Budget Line Item/Programs	Prior Years Unobligated Balances
Law Enforcement Operations	-1,135
Integrated Resource Restoration	5,829
Valles Caldera National Preserve	0
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	4,340
Other	5,547
Total National Forest System³	\$24,916
Wildland Fire Management²	
Preparedness	\$55,726
Suppression	53,357
Hazardous Fuels Management	2,054
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration	85
Coop Fire – Volunteer Fire Assistance	24
Coop Fire – State Fire Assistance	7,383
Other	147
Total Wildland Fire Management	\$118,776
FLAME Fund	\$147,835
Total FLAME Fund	\$147,835
Capital Improvement and Maintenance	
Facilities Capital Improvement/Maintenance	\$8,766
Roads Capital Improvement/Maintenance	-3,613
Trails Capital Improvement/Maintenance	1,105
Legacy Roads	2,574
Deferred Maintenance	32
Construction Disaster Supplemental	1,079
Other	1,968
Total Capital Improvement and Maintenance	\$11,911
Land Acquisition - LWCF	
Land Acquisition	\$31,684
Total Land Acquisition LWCF	\$31,684
Other Appropriations	
Range Betterment Fund	\$1,167
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research	115
Subsistence Management (Region 10)	188
Total Other Appropriations	\$1,470
Grand Total	\$417,416

¹Programs that were moved under Wildland Fire Management in FY 2014 but have balances in prior years.

²Preparedness and Suppression balances include \$45.1 and \$19.9 million respectively for next generation airtanker (P.L. 113-235); as of FY 2017 the full \$65 million is available in Preparedness (difference derived from recoveries).

³National Forest System and State and Private Forestry unobligated balances only include appropriated funds and do not match the Project Statement totals which includes transfers and other programs.

USDA Working Capital Fund, Central Cost Distribution and Departmental
Shared Cost Programs Charges

Background

This exhibit is included to provide a three-year display of total costs paid by the Forest Service for these centrally administered programs.

Overview

The Forest Service, as an organizational entity of the Department of Agriculture (USDA), is provided administrative services managed centrally on behalf of the Department. These centrally administered programs are broken into two activities, the Working Capital Fund and Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Cost Programs. It is important to note that cost estimates for actual usage programs have changed in the last three fiscal years in response to demand for services on the part of the Forest Service. The Forest Service estimates for the activities assessed on a Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) or standard methodology are likely to better reflect Forest Service shares of total costs, but these may vary during execution.

USDA Working Capital Fund

The Working Capital Fund (WCF) includes financial and administrative services provided with funding under the authority of 7 U.S.C. 2235. The WCF is a financing mechanism that currently supports 17 activity centers across five Department-level organizations. These centers provide services to all USDA agencies, including the Forest Service, and a large number of non-USDA entities. Customers reimburse activity centers for the cost of services provided.

These WCF-supported activities do not receive appropriated funds and are not subsidized from other funding sources. All costs are recovered through reimbursements from serviced customers. The estimated reimbursement from customers represents their projected share of the costs of services delivered. Pursuant to the terms of the general provisions in annual appropriations to USDA, agency administrators must authorize billings to their agency for these services. Therefore, the Chief of the Forest Service (or his duly appointed representative) must sign an agreement at the beginning of the fiscal year authorizing billing for services provided and supplying the appropriate accounting data.

The Forest Service acts as one of the overseers in the review of cost estimates for the National Finance Center (NFC) through its participation in the WCF Executive Committee, a body comprised of representatives from various USDA agencies. The Executive Committee is charged with making budget recommendations and advising the Department's Chief Financial Officer as to the financial effectiveness of the WCF. The Forest Service actively works with the Department's Chief Financial Officer to review activities included in the Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Cost Programs and the basis for any costs attributed to the Forest Service.

Tables on the following pages display Forest Service assessments for USDA WCF services and describe the range of WCF services that the USDA provides.

FY 2016 to FY 2018 Working Capital Fund Assessments for the Forest Service

Core Services

(dollars in thousands)

Core Service	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Material Management Services Center	\$835	877	683
Mail and Reproduction Management	471	540	467
Integrated Procurement Systems	8,414	8,423	7,882
Creative Media and Broadcast Center	352	614	616
Financial Management Services	56,099	54,238	50,793
Internal Control Support Services	321	330	396
Client Technology Services*	467	14,283	13,280
Telecommunication Services (Telecommunications Customer Services Center)*	206	0	0
Office of the Executive Secretariat	755	874	787
Enterprise Network Services	3,553	6,395	6,669
Total Core Services	\$71,473	\$86,574	\$81,573

*Telecommunication Customer Service Center transitioned to Client Technology Services (CTS) in FY 2017.

USDA Agency Specific Services

(dollars in thousands)

USDA Agency Specific Services	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Material Management Services	\$177	\$175	\$161
Mail and Reproduction Services Management Division	238	256	208
Creative Media and Broadcast Center	257	140	329
Financial Management Services	600	0	0
Client Technology Services*	152	13,950	11,864
Enterprise Network Services	711	874	1,467
HR Enterprise System Management	805	805	759
National Finance Center	8,959	8,869	7,319
National Information Technology Center (NITC)*	41,368	21,862	19,637
Procurement Operations Division	139	141	117
Total USDA Agency Specific Services	\$53,406	\$47,072	\$41,861

*Identity, Credential and Access Management Services transitioned from NITC to Client Technology Services (CTS) in FY 2017.

Total: Core Services Plus USDA Agency Specific Services

Core Services Plus USDA Agency Specific Services	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Total Working Capital Fund Assessments	\$124,879	\$133,646	\$123,434

FY 2016 and FY 2017 NITC/CTS costs are estimates and subject to change based on agency execution year needs.

Working Capital Fund Activities

Cost Recovery Methodologies

Activity	Description	Cost Distribution
National Finance Center Agency Specific	Provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payroll/personnel services to USDA/non-USDA agencies • Applications support to Office of Personnel Management • Record keeper/other services to support the Thrift Savings Plan • Support services for USDA accounting applications • PKI licenses/support 	Beginning in FY 2005, services provided by NFC have been negotiated between NFC and serviced agencies. The nature, volume, and cost of services serve as the basis for Memoranda of Understanding between the parties.
National Finance Center Government Employee Services	Provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payroll/personnel services to USDA/non-USDA agencies • Applications support to Office of Personnel Management • Record keeper/other services to support the Thrift Savings Plan • Support services for USDA accounting applications • PKI licenses/support 	Beginning in FY 2005, services provided by NFC have been negotiated between NFC and serviced agencies. The nature, volume, and cost of services serve as the basis for Memoranda of Understanding between the parties.
Financial Management Services	Operates/maintains the following systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI - core accounting) • Real property • Corporate integrated administrative payments • Other systems as necessary to support program agency missions and fulfill USDA's fiduciary responsibilities to taxpayers Provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core accounting/reporting services • Agency-specific services • Operates a corporate controller organization that integrates accountability and systems across USDA 	Financial/Adm. Pmts: Costs recovered based on agency share of FMMI workload (measured in general journal records) Real Property: Costs recovered based on agency shares of USDA-owned and GSA/commercially-leased property

Activity	Description	Cost Distribution
Internal Control Support Services	Internal Control Support Services (ICSS) promotes and supports the USDA's internal control program by assisting USDA agencies in their internal control compliance efforts. As part of its services, ICSS plans and manages the Department's annual assessment of internal control over financial reporting and promotes best practices across the Department to ensure greater consistency in regard to internal control of financial processes, administrative processes, and information technology. ICSS also provides training programs, group presentations, and other support services in order to improve the Department's internal control program and awareness of emerging events and current trends related to internal control.	Cost is distributed based on agency's FTE percentages.
Creative Media and Broadcast Center	The Broadcast Media and Technology Center (BMTc) provides a wide array of video production and teleconferencing (both audio and video) services. The Visual Communication Center offers a variety of planning, fabrication, and development services for graphic productions, exhibits, and visitor center needs. The Center also provides web page graphic design services.	Agency percentage shares are based on the most recently completed fiscal year billings for services. Actual costs reflect use of the service and are based on needed labor hours, contractual costs, and/or direct materials needed for the delivery of a product to the requesting agency.
NITC - IT Services	Provides mainframe computer operations and application development and support services to support agency programs. NITC also provides IT consulting services and training, and data warehouse support for FMFI.	Agency percentages are based on estimates of services to be provided to users during the current fiscal year. Actual costs are based on the cost of services provided to requesting agencies under terms of interagency agreements.
National Telecom Services	Provides centralized telecommunications support services nationwide for the USDA, manages and provide internet access to USDA agencies and data connections between agencies (USDA Intranet), and assists agencies in using telecommunication services in a cost-effective manner.	Agencies' percentage shares are based on their prior year utilization of voice and data telecommunication services. Actual costs for technical and data services are recovered via distribution through the WCF.
Telecom Customer Services Center (TSCS) (Transitioning to Client Technology Services in FY17 (Core Services))	Manages and maintains the USDA's voice telephone services in the Washington, DC metropolitan area (WMA); serves as the single point of contact for all local requests for telephone services and purchases; manages and administers the nationwide voice mail system; provides maintenance services for telephone equipment and voice mail services in the WMA.	Agency percentage shares are based on the number of telephone lines in the WMA and the number of voice mailboxes on the primary node.

Activity	Description	Cost Distribution
Network Services	Provides technical/operational assistance on data networking telecommunications systems; designs, installs, operates, and manages shared services provided on departmental networks and platforms; participates in the design, engineering, and operations management of the Enterprise Network.	Agency percentage share is based on current FTEs for the USDA facilities serviced by the Departmental LAN and e-mail usage.
Computer Services Network Support (Transitioning to Client Technology Services in FY16 (Core Services))	Provides LAN, desktop, application, and web development support and maintenance to the Office of the Secretary (OSEC).	Basic services for OSEC are paid by the Office of the Chief Information Officer. The cost for support services to the Under and Assistant Secretaries are distributed among agencies based on estimated fiscal year nationwide FTEs.
Central Forms and Pubs - Transport Costs	Provides acquisition (printing), warehouse, and worldwide distribution of administrative forms and publications for all USDA agencies and non-USDA agencies; provides warehouse distribution of agency programs and publications for all USDA agencies and for other participating government agencies.	Based on the most recently completed fiscal year.
Copier and Duplicating Services (Managed Print Services)	Provides centralized copier facilities and equipment for employees in the downtown DC buildings complex and nearby satellite locations (Riverdale Carver Center). A large inventory of pool/convenience copiers is distributed throughout USDA agency offices in the DC area.	Customers are billed based on a three year agency average mail count as a percentage of the total mail count. Customers are billed for duplicating services based on actual usage.
Integrated Procurement Services	Develops, implements, and maintains a suite of corporate acquisition software tools, streamlining processes and an interface with the USDA corporate financial system. Provides procurement support to USDA agencies.	Cost is distributed based on actual agency use of the Integrated Acquisition System (IAS), SmartPay, and Fleet Credit Cards. Customers are billed monthly for 1/12 of their estimated annual share of costs.
Central Receiving	Pick up and distribution of mail throughout the USDA Headquarters Complex and leased facilities in the DC Metro area. This also includes distribution and pick up of packages, processing Accountable mail, Meter outgoing mail from USDA.	Central Mail/Door-to-Door: Agency shares are based on mail count samples taken by the Mail Unit.
Storage of Forms and Publications	Provides acquisition (printing), warehouse, and worldwide distribution of administrative forms and publications for all USDA agencies; provides warehouse distribution of agency programs and publications for all USDA agencies and for other participating government agencies.	Agency shares are based on costs of requisitions processed for AD and SF forms during the most recently completed fiscal year. Agency shares for agency-specific forms are based on square footage of space for storage of agency forms at the warehouse.

Activity	Description	Cost Distribution
Central Excess Property Operations	Provides customer service and disposition for all excess property for USDA and other Federal agencies in the WMA under the concept of a Cooperative Administrative Support Unit (CASU); provides property rehabilitation services in an effort to promote utilization of serviceable excess and rehabilitated property in lieu of purchasing new property.	Agency shares are based on agencies FTEs in the WMA; verified against the FY16 Presidents Budget Staff Year Disposition Report provided by OMB on an annual basis
Executive Secretariat	Provides referral and correspondence control services to the Department for mail addressed to the Department, the Secretary, and the immediate Office of the Secretary.	User percentages are based on a moving average of correspondence processed by the unit.

Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Cost Programs

Central Cost Distribution Programs

USDA agencies pay a share of costs for external programs through “Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Cost Programs” assessments. The Forest Service share is determined in a manner consistent with that for every other agency in the Department. Assessments are broken down into two categories:

Actual Usage - Costs are collected for programs such as GSA space, transit subsidies, postage, and unemployment and workers compensation insurance based on actual costs incurred by individual agencies.

Outside Assessments - Costs such as Office of Personnel Management Federal employment, FirstGov, and GSA blue pages are distributed to executive departments for reimbursement. The Department has no discretion as to the cost of the program.

Departmental Shared Cost Programs

These costs provide funding for department-wide initiatives authorized by the Office of the Secretary. Costs for these programs cannot be recovered on a usage basis and are generally distributed using an FTE methodology.

FY 2016 to FY 2018 Forest Service Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Cost Programs Central Cost Distribution Programs (dollars in thousands)

Central Cost Distribution Programs	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
E-GOV Initiatives	\$2,594	\$1,650	\$1,679
Ethics E-Filing	64	64	64
Fair Pay Safe Workplace	17	17	17
Federal Audit Clearing Service	27	27	27
FEMA Emergency Preparedness	131	131	131
Flexible Spending Accounts FSAFEDS - Agency Specific	64	64	64
Government-wide Council Activities	176	176	176
GSA HSPD12 LincPass Maintenance	1,619	1,619	1,619
National Archives Records System	400	450	450

Central Cost Distribution Programs	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
OPM Credit Monitoring Services	169	8	8
OPM Federal Employee Services and Admin Law Judges	169	169	169
Transit Subsidy	1,313	1,425	1,425
U.S. Postal Service Mail - Agency specific	90	10	10
Unemployment Compensation	38,496	38,496	38,496
Workers Compensation	29,880	29,880	29,880
Total Central Cost Programs	\$75,209	\$74,205	\$74,205

Departmental Shared Cost Programs

Departmental Shared Cost Programs	FY 2016 Actuals	FY 2017 Planned	FY 2018 President's Budget
1890 USDA Initiative	\$993	\$1,173	1,056
Advisory Committee Liaison Services (Office of the Secretary White House Liaison Office)	262	246	222
Classified National Security Information	220	230	207
Continuity of Operations Planning	628	661	595
Drug Testing Program - Agency Specific	172	153	153
E-GOV Initiatives HSPD-12 (Identity and Access Management)	2,123	2,105	1,894
Emergency Operations Center	734	732	658
Facility Infrastructure Review & Assessment	136	141	126
Faith-Based Initiatives & Neighborhood Partnerships	120	125	112
Hispanic Serving Institutions National Program (Formerly HACU)	552	619	557
Honor Awards	23	24	22
Intertribal Technical Assistance Network	964	956	860
Medical Services	44	51	46
Peoples Garden & Visitors Center	202	205	185
Personnel and Document Security (Personnel Security Branch)	356	313	281
Preauthorized Funding	1,168	1,158	1,042
Retirement Processor Web Application	182	187	169
TARGET Center (includes Sign Language Interpreter Services)	452	452	407
USDA 1994 Program (Formerly AIHEC)	216	243	219
USDA Human Resources Transformation	482	549	494
Virtual University	622	620	558
Total Departmental Shared Cost Programs	\$10,651	\$10,943	\$9,863

Total: Central Cost Distribution Programs Plus Departmental Shared Cost Programs

Central Cost Distribution Programs Plus Departmental Shared Cost Programs	FY 2016 Enacted	FY 2017 Annualized CR	FY 2018 President's Budget
Total Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Services Cost Programs	\$85,860	\$85,148	\$84,068

The legislative cap for the Departmental Shared Cost Program activities is \$14.5 million.

Central Cost Distribution and Departmental Shared Cost Program Activities
 Central Cost Distribution Programs & Departmental Shared Cost Programs

Activity	Description	Cost Distribution
U.S. Postal Service Mail	Provides reimbursement to the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) for mailing services provided to USDA agencies.	User percentages are based on prior year usage. Adjustments are made prior to the end of the fiscal year based on direct accountability (i.e., metered costs, sampling, and anticipated increases in postal rates).
Unemployment Compensation	Provides reimbursement to the Department of Labor (DOL) unemployment trust fund for payment made to unemployed former USDA employees.	User percentages are based on reconciled agency charges for the previous fiscal year.
Worker's Compensation Program	Provides reimbursement to the Department of Labor (Office of Workers Compensation) for employment compensation to USDA employees due to on-the job injuries.	Distribution based on reconciled agency cases and dollars.
National Archives Records System	Effective in FY 2001, the National Archives became a fee-for-service records center. Each agency is assessed for costs associated with records in storage plus an additional amount for those departmental staff offices that store agency records as a part of their function.	Distribution based on each agency's volume of records stored, as well as the percentage of Department-wide records stored based on nation-wide fees.
Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAFEDS) - Agency	The National Defense Authorization Act, Public Law 108-136, signed November 24, 2003, requires all Executive Branch agencies that participate in the Flexible Spending Accounts for Federal Employees Program (FSAFEDS) to cover administrative fees on behalf of their employees.	The agency cost shares are based on the participation level of their employees. Agencies are billed for the operating costs by OPM and contract administration by a commercial vendor.
OPM Federal Employment and Administrative Law Judges Service	This program reimburses OPM for Federal Employment Services and information provided to USDA agencies.	Distribution is based on current fiscal year nationwide FTE ceiling employment for each agency.
Government-wide Council Activities	Reimburses GSA for projects of the Chief Financial Officers Council, Chief Information Officers Council, and Procurement Executive Council.	Distribution is based on current fiscal year nationwide FTE employment ceilings in each agency.

Working Capital Fund, Forest Service

Overview

The Forest Service Working Capital Fund (WCF) provides orderly and efficient supply and equipment service in support of Forest Service programs. The Department of Agriculture Organic Act of August 3, 1956, as amended by the Act of October 23, 1962 (15 U.S.C. 579b), established the WCF. The WCF is a self-sustaining revolving fund that provides services to national forests, research stations, other Federal agencies, and as provided by law, to State and private cooperators.

The WCF requires no appropriation. Initially, regular Forest Service appropriations purchased assets and donated the assets to WCF. The WCF rates are determined so that WCF recovers operating and replacement costs. The WCF provides the following services:

Equipment Leasing Services, which owns and rents vehicles and aircraft, and
Enterprise Services, which are reinvention teams accomplishing project work that improves customer service and reduces costs.

The table below displays the volume of business for major WCF activities:

Volume of Business for Major WCF Activities
(dollars in thousands)

Type	FY 2016 Enacted*	FY 2017 Enacted*	FY 2018 Pres. Budget Estimate.*
Equipment - Fleet	\$184,990	\$197,540	\$185,205
Equipment - Aircraft	9,685	15,612	15,027
Nursery	11,235	11,684	12,152
Enterprise Services	42,478	44,177	45,944
Total	\$248,388	\$269,013	\$258,328

* FY 2017 Enacted and FY 2018 President's Budget estimates were calculated using approved 5-year Cash Flow statements. Each year the 5-year estimates can change based on specific needs at the time.

Budget Authorities

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Acquisition of Lands, Special Acts, San Bernardino National Forest Land Conveyance and Settlement	Provides authority for the conveyance of a small parcel of public domain land in the San Bernardino National Forest in the State of California and changes the authorization for collection and retention of receipts first authorized under the Sisk Act P.L. 90-171.		NFS	P.L. 106-434	16 U.S.C. 484a
Acquisition of Lands, Special Acts, Ozark and Ouachita National Forest Land Exchange	Provides authority to the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Ozark-St. Francis, Ouachita National Forests Nevada, Utah, California and Arkansas to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire, construct, or improve administrative sites.		NFS	P.L. 108-350	
Agricultural Act of 2014, Insect and Disease Infestation	Amends the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) to require designation of an insect and disease priority treatment area in at least one National Forest per State, if requested by the Governor. Treatments in those areas may be conducted in accordance with the authorities provided for fuels treatments in HFRA and also may be categorically excluded. Also, authorizes \$200,000,000 per year for these activities through 2024.		NFS, SPF	P.L. 113-79	16 U.S.C. 6591 et. seq.
Agricultural Act of 2014, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA)	Requires the Secretary of Agriculture to revise the FIA strategic plan within 180 days of enactment.		Research	P.L. 113-79	16 U.S.C. 1642(e)
Agricultural Act of 2014, Forest Products Advanced Utilization Research	Amends the Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998 to add a Forest Products Advanced Utilization provision requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a forestry and forest products research and extension initiative to develop and disseminate science-based tools that address the needs of the forestry sector. These activities must be carried out in coordination with the Forest Service, including the Forest Product's Laboratory.	9/30/2018	Research	P.L. 113-79	P.L. 89-106; P.L. 110-246

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Agriculture Grants and Powers Act of 1965	Provides authority to erect buildings and other structures on non-Federal land, if long-term lease on the land is obtained. Also, provides authority to make competitive grants to eligible institutions, including special grants and grants for facility renovation and refurbishment, to further the programs of the Department of Agriculture.				
Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980	This Act authorizes management of Federal lands in Alaska for subsistence uses of fish and wildlife, providing the opportunity for rural residents to continue their subsistence way of life. This Act also allows that receipts from oil, gas, timber, coal, and other natural resources collected by the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior are available to prepare, offer, and administer the timber sale program on the Tongass National Forest. Authorizing up to \$5,000,000 in annual transfers of receipts to a special fund.		NFS	P.L. 96-487	16 U.S.C. 539d
Anderson-Mansfield Reforestation and Revegetation Act of 1949	Requires the agency to accelerate and provide a continuing basis for the needed reforestation and revegetation of national forest lands and other lands under Forest Service administration or control. This Act authorizes appropriations as needed to provide for reasonable continuity of reforestation and vegetation programs.		NFS	P.L. 81-348	16 U.S.C. 581j-
Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979	Authorizes the use of appropriated funds for the preservation and protection of historical and archaeological resources.		NFS	P.L. 96-95	16 U.S.C. 469
Arizona National Forest Improvement Act of 2000	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites in national forests in the State of Arizona, to convey certain land to the City of Sedona, Arizona for a wastewater treatment facility, and for other purposes.		NFS	P.L. 106-458	16 U.S.C. 484a
Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937	Sections 31 and 32 of this Act authorize and direct the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program of land conservation and land utilization, in order to assist in controlling soil erosion, reforestation, preserving natural resources, and to cooperate with Federal, State, Territorial, and other public agencies in development and implementation of plans. This Act also provides authority to dispose of, or exchange, land acquired for the		NFS	P.L. 75-210	7 U.S.C. 110-111; 7 U.S.C. 1000-1006

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	land utilization and conservation program. Section 32 also gives the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to regulate the use and occupancy of the property acquired by, or transferred to, the Secretary under or for the purposes of the Bankhead-Jones Act. This Act authorizes the transfer of lands acquired under the Act to other Federal, State, or Territorial agencies subject to a public reverter provision.				
Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, 25 percent of revenues to counties	This Act authorizes annual payments on a calendar year basis to counties, equal to 25 percent of net revenues received during the year (excluding receipts from the sale of land). Counties shall use these payments for schools and/or roads. This Act pertains primarily to national grasslands and land utilization projects.		NFS	P.L. 75-210	7 U.S.C. 1012
Bend Pine Nursery Land Conveyance Act	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other NFS land in the State of Oregon and use the proceeds derived from the sale or exchange for NFS purposes.		NFS	P.L. 106-526	16 U.S.C. 484a; 16 U.S.C. 480 et seq
Black Hills National Forest and Rocky Mountain Research Station Improvement Act	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Black Hills National Forest and use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire replacement sites and to acquire or construct administrative improvements in connection with the Black Hills National Forest.		NFS	P.L. 106-329	16 U.S.C. 484a
Boise Laboratory Replacement Act of 2000	Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange the Boise laboratory site (as defined by this Act), and use the resultant funds to acquire land and facilities to: (1) co-locate the laboratory with one of the Boise-area State institutions of higher learning; (2) replace other laboratory functions; and (3) acquire other land or interests in Idaho.		NFS	P.L. 90-171; P.L. 106-291	16 U.S.C. 484a

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act of 1978	Section 18(e) authorizes the construction of dispersed recreation sites and trails outside the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Section 7(d)(3) authorizes funding to acquire land and water within the designated wilderness. Also, see Thye-Blatnik Act of June 22, 1948, as amended (16 U.S.C. 577h), cited in paragraph 3.		NFS	P.L. 95-495	16 USC 1132 note
Brush Disposal Act of August 11, 1916	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to require purchasers of national forest timber to deposit the estimated cost to dispose of brush and other debris resulting from their cutting operations.		NFS	P.L. 64-190	16 U.S.C. 490
Burton-Santini Lake Tahoe Basin Act of December 23, 1980	Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture, with the concurrence of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, to acquire specified unimproved, environmentally sensitive land to be administered as part of the United States National Forest System or, if unsuitable for administration as such, to be transferred to a unit of State or local government with specified restrictions. Permits the acquisition of specified portions of the Lake Tahoe Basin. This authority expires when all Clark County, Nevada, land specified in the Act is sold by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management.		NFS	P.L. 96-586	
Carlson-Foley Act of 1968	This Act authorizes use of noxious plant control funds reimburse States for such activity on Federal land.		NFS, SPF	P.L. 90-583	43 U.S.C. 1241-1243
Coconino and Tonto National Forest Land Exchange Act	This Act provides for the exchange of five certain parcels of land in the Coconino and Tonto National Forests in Arizona, and for other purposes.		NFS	P.L. 108-190	43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.; 43 U.S.C. 1716(b); 16 U.S.C. 484a
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration (CFLR)	The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 authorizes the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund, establishing a Treasury fund to be used to pay up to 50 percent of the cost of carrying out and monitoring ecological restoration treatments on National Forest System land. The Act authorizes \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2019, to remain available until expended. Actual appropriated amounts have varied by year.	9/30/2019	NFS	P.L. 111-11 Title III	16 U.S.C. 7301

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act of 1986, land acquisition provisions	Sections 9 and 16a of the Act authorizes land acquisition within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.		NFS	P.L. 99-663	16 U.S.C. 544g
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act of November 17 of 1986, establishment	Establishes the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in Washington and Oregon. Designates special management and urban areas within such scenic area. Directs the Secretary to administer the Federal lands within the special management areas according to forest and multiple-use management regulations applicable to the national forests. Authorizes the Secretary to make grants to each State for grants and loans for economic development in counties which have adopted conforming land use ordinances. Directs the Secretary to provide technical assistance to counties to develop land use ordinances under this Act. Allocates timber receipts from special management area funds. Directs the Secretary to make payments to local governments to compensate for lost real property taxes from federally acquired lands.		SPF, NFS	P.L. 99-663	16 U.S.C. 544
Commercial Filming	The Act of May 26, 2000 authorizes retention of fees collected for commercial filming and photography land use authorizations and the obligation of the monies for the maintenance of the filming site. Land use fees are based on a schedule to use and occupy NFS land for filming/photo activities. This fee is separate from the cost recovery fee to process applications and monitor and the authorization for compliance with the commercial filming permit.		NFS	P.L. 106-206	16 U.S.C. 4601-6d
Commercial Spectrum Enhancement Act (CSEA)	Title II of this Act created the Spectrum Relocation Fund (SRF) to provide a centralized and streamlined funding mechanism through which Federal agencies can recover the costs associated with relocating their radio communications systems from certain spectrum bands, which were authorized to be auctioned for commercial purposes.		NFS	P.L. 108-494	

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program	The 2008 Farm Bill amended the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to establish a program to provide federal matching grants to help local governments, Tribes, or nongovernmental organizations acquire private forests that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. Properties acquired are working forests open to public access. Authorizes appropriations of such sums as necessary.		SPF	P.L. 110-246	16 U.S.C. 2103d
Community Forest Restoration Act	Extends authorization to make funds available for use on non-Federal lands under State and Private Forestry appropriation.		WFM	P.L. 106-393	
Community Wood Energy Program	The Agricultural Act of 2014 authorizes \$5,000,000 in annual appropriations for a Community Wood Energy Program through FY 2018. Grants of up to \$50,000 to State and local governments or biomass consumer cooperatives to develop plans for, or to acquire or upgrade community wood energy systems.	09/30/2018	SPF	P.L. 113-79	7 U.S.C. 8113
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)	Forest Service Policy is to use Forest Service CERCLA authority and processes to respond at sites under Forest Service jurisdiction or control where hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants threaten human health or the environment. Many abandoned mine sites are CERCLA sites, since heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, and others that may occur in surface water at mine sites are listed as hazardous substances. Further, the Forest Service may invoke CERCLA at mining sites where “pollutants or contaminants” such as sediment, or metals such as iron or aluminum which are not listed hazardous substances, are impacting the environment.		NFS	P.L. 96-510	42 U.S.C. 9601
Cooperative Firefighting Funds Retention	Any money collected from the States for fire suppression assistance rendered by the Forest Service on non-Federal lands not in the vicinity of National Forest System lands shall hereafter be used to reimburse the applicable appropriation and shall remain available until expended.		SPF	P.L. 105-277	16 U.S.C. 2106b
Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978	Authorizes cooperation and assistance to non-Federal forest landowners and communities in rural forest management, urban and community forest management, production of		SPF	P.L. 95-313	16 U.S.C. 2101-2114

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	timber and other forest resources, insect and disease control, rural fire prevention and control, forest management and planning assistance, and technology implementation. Includes authorization for many State and Private Forestry programs, including the Forest Stewardship Program, the Forest Legacy Program, and the Urban and Community Forestry Program.				
Cooperative Forestry Innovation Partnership Projects	Allows the Secretary to competitively allocate up to 5 percent of CFAA funds for innovative education, outreach, or technology transfer projects. Funds would be available to States, Tribes, local governments, land-grant, or private entities with a 50 percent cost share.		SPF	P.L. 110-246	16 U.S.C. 2101a and continuing
Cooperative Funds Act of June 30, 1914, Forest Investigations, Protection and Improvement	This Act authorizes the acceptance of contributions for cooperative work in forest investigations, protection, management, and improvement of the National Forest System.		NFS		16 U.S.C. 498
Cooperative Funds Act of June 30, 1914, Wildland Fire Protection	The Act grants Federal Agencies the authority to maintain wildland fire protection organizations for the protection of Federal lands and for the States to assist local fire departments in maintaining wildland fire protection resources for the protection of State and privately owned lands. Structure and dump fire protection, which are the responsibility of local fire departments, are independent of this agreement.		WFM		16 U.S.C. 498
Cooperative Funds and Deposits Act	This Act authorizes the Forest Service and cooperator(s) to perform work from which they would accrue mutual non-monetary benefit in the areas of cooperative pollution abatement; cooperative manpower, job training, and development programs; development and publication of cooperative environmental educations and forest history materials; and, forestry protection. Authorizes cooperation for fire protection for public good and where there is mutual benefit, other than monetary consideration.		WFM	P.L. 94-148; P.L. 95-313	
Cradle of Forestry	The Act of July 4, 1968 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with, and receive the cooperation of, public and private agencies and organizations and individuals in the development, administration, and operation of Cradle of Forestry in		NFS	P.L. 90-398	16 U.S.C. 471h

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	western North Carolina. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to accept contributions and gifts to further the purposes of the Act. The 6,500-acre Cradle of Forestry Historic Site in the Pink Beds valley, NC, was established by Congress in 1968 and contains the first official school for forestry in America.				
Department of Agriculture Grants and Powers Act of 1965	Section 1 authorizes the erection of buildings and other structures on non-federal land, with long-term lease and right-to-remove, and authorizes the use of appropriations for expenses necessary to acquire long-term lease. Provides authority for long-term leases on non-federal land and building structures on non-federal land, if a long-term lease on the land is obtained.		ALL	P.L. 89-106	7 U.S.C. 2250a
Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1944	Section 703 authorizes the erection, alteration, and repair of buildings and other improvements on Federal land that are necessary to conduct authorized work, provided provision is made in applicable appropriations.		CIM	P.L. 78-425	7 U.S.C. 2250
Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1956	This Act authorizes the acquisition of land by purchase, exchange, or other means, to carry out authorized work, provided that provision is made in applicable appropriations. This is one of the primary authorities for acquisition of lands with Land and Water Conservation Fund moneys.		NFS	P.L. 84-979	7 U.S.C. 428a
Department of Agriculture Organic Act - Aviation, Lookout Towers, & Fire Management	Authorizes the Forest Service, by contract or otherwise, to provide for procurement and operation of aerial facilities and services for the protection and management of the national forests and other lands administered by the agency.		WFM	P.L. 78-425	16 U.S.C. 579a
Eastern Wilderness Act of 1975	Sections 6 and 9 authorize the acquisition, exchange, and donation of land for inclusion in the Eastern Wilderness system.		NFS	P.L. 93-622	16 U.S.C. 1132 note
Endangered Species Act of 1973	The Endangered Species Act (ESA) provides a program for the conservation of threatened and endangered plants and animals and the habitats in which they are found. Section 7 requires federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the NOAA Fisheries Service to ensure that actions they authorize, fund or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat of such		NFS	P.L. 93-205	16 U.S.C. 1534 and 1542

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	species. Sections 5 and 15 authorize the acquisition of land to protect threatened and endangered species.				
Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act (Forest Legacy)	Authorizes grants to States for carrying out the Forest Legacy Program, including the acquisition by the State of lands and interests in lands.		SPF	P.L. 104-127	16 U.S.C. 2103c
Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996	This Act authorizes the acceptance of contributions for cooperative work in forest investigations, protection, management, and improvement of the National Forest System.		NFS	P.L. 104-127	16 U.S.C. 498
Federal Highway Act	This Act establishes the Federal Highway Trust Fund, managed by the Department of Transportation. Federal highway construction, maintenance, and other projects defined in the Act are financed from the Federal Highway Trust Fund. The Department of Transportation transfers these monies to the Forest Service for highway projects pertinent to National Forest System lands.		CIM	P.L. 85-767	23 U.S.C. 120, 125, 205
Federal Land Exchange Facilitation Act of 1988	Section 4 of this Act authorizes appropriations to consider, process, and consummate land exchanges pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 USC 1701).		NFS	P.L. 100-409	43 U.S.C. 1716
Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act	This Act authorizes the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to sell parcels of public land regarded as “in –holdings” to reduce land management costs and fragmentation. This authority expires in the year 2010 at which time any unobligated funds will be added to the existing Land and Water Conservation Fund.	07/25/2011	NFS	P.L. 106-248; P.L. 111-212 sec. 3007	43 U.S.C. 2301
Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act	This Act provides authority to implement a fee program for certain recreation sites on Federal lands. Fees collected from users of recreation facilities are used to pay for on-the-ground operation, maintenance, and improvements of recreation sites and services to maintain and enhance recreation opportunities, visitor experiences, and related habitat. Funds are available until expended. The Act directs the creation of Recreation Resource Advisory Committees to allow for public involvement on recreation fee programs.	09/30/2018	NFS	P.L. 108-447; P.L. 113-46; P.L. 113-164; P.L. 113-235; P.L. 113-235; P.L. 114-223	16 U.S.C. 6806 and 6807
Federal Water Project Recreation Act, 1965	The Act has provided up to 50 percent of the costs of recreation facility development at certain reservoirs when a non-Federal entity entered into an agreement to provide the remaining		NFS	P.L. 89-72	16 U.S.C. 460L-13

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	development funds; to pay all of the costs of operations, maintenance, and replacement (OM&R); and to manage the area for public recreational use. For reservoirs constructed before 1965, the Federal contribution for the development of recreation facilities was limited to \$100,000 for each reservoir.				
FLAME Act of 2009	The FLAME Act of 2009 states, "...for fiscal year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, the amounts requested by the President for a FLAME Fund should be not less than the amount estimated by the Secretary concerned as the amount necessary for that fiscal year for wildfire suppression activities of the Secretary that meet the criteria specified..." The criteria are fires that 1) cover 300 or more acres, 2) pose significant complexity, severity, or threat to human life, property, or resources.		FLAME	P.L. 111-88	43 USC 1701-note; 43 U.S.C. 1748a
Florida National Forest Land Management Act	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange certain parcels of land in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.		NFS	P.L. 108-152	16 U.S.C. 484a
Food and Agriculture Act of 1977	Designates the U.S. Department of Agriculture as the lead agency of the Federal government for agricultural research, extension, and teaching. It also removes restrictions on the use of cooperative agreements with universities and permits cost reimbursable agreements with State cooperating institutions without competition.		ALL	P.L. 95-113	7 U.S.C. 3318-3319d
Food Security Act of 1985	Authorizes a conservation acreage reserve program, and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to utilize the services of the Forest Service and other Federal and State agencies to carry out the program.		ALL	P.L. 99-198	16 U.S.C. 3842
Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990	Section 1241 authorizes the Modern Timber Bridge Initiative, with an authorization of \$5,000,000 annually. Section 1271 authorizes assistance to landowners who suffer destruction of 35 percent or more of a commercial tree stand due to damaging weather, related condition, or wildfire. Section 2371 authorizes the establishment of and economic development and global marketing program, including technology transfer to natural resource-based industries in the United States. The Healthy Forest Initiative amended section 2371 the Act to create the "Rural Revitalization		SPF	P.L. 101-624	16 U.S.C. 2106; 7 U.S.C. 6601; 7 U.S.C. 6611-6617

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	Technologies” program, which provides for the accelerated adoption of technologies in the biomass industry. Sections 2372-2379 authorize economic assistance to rural communities in or near national forests.				
Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974	Requires preparation of a renewable resource assessment, program plans, inventories, and budget request, and an update to these plans every 10 years.		ALL	P.L. 93-378	16 U.S.C. 1601 note
Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978	The Act authorizes the Forest Service to conduct, support, and cooperate in investigations, tests, and other activities necessary to obtain, analyze, develop, demonstrate, and disseminate scientific information about forest and rangeland renewable resources in rural, suburban, and urban areas. It authorizes competitive grants and advance of funds to cooperators and grantees; research encouraging improved reforestation of cutover lands; and development and implementation of improved methods of survey and analysis of forest inventory information. An amendment made under P.L. 101-624 established a forestry student grant program for minority and female students.		NFS	P.L. 95-307; P.L. 100-521; P.L. 101-624	16 U.S.C. 1641 - 1648
Forest Botanical Products	The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 2000 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to charge and collect fees from persons who harvest forest botanical products to cover costs to the agency. Funds collected are deposited in a special fund in the Treasury. This authority is authorized through September 30, 2019, with the funds collected available for expenditure through September 30, 2020.	09/30/2019	NFS	P.L. 106-113; P.L. 111-88; P.L. 113-76	16 U.S.C. 528 note
Forest Inventory Analysis Data Privacy	The FY 2000 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act added Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program to the existing Food Security Act of 1985, thus providing a legal basis for protecting the privacy of the data suppliers.		R&D	P.L. 106-113	7 U.S.C. 2276
Forest Service Administration of Rights-Of-Way and Land Uses (Cost Recovery)	This Act provides authority to implement a pilot program to improve customer service to applicants and holders of special land use authorizations and reduce the agency’s backlog of expired authorizations. The authority allows the Forest Service to charge a fee for analysis of special use authorizations. The Act originally	Permanent	NFS	P.L. 106-113, Sec. 331; P.L. 113-6, Sec. 1415, P.L. 110-161, P.L. 113-6; P.L. 113-46; P.L. 113-76	30 U.S.C. 185(l); 43 U.S.C. 1764(g); 16 U.S.C. 470h-2(g), U.S.C. 497 note

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	granted the authority until Sept 30, 2012; the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriation Act, 2013 extended the authority until September 30, 2013.				
Forest Service Facility Realignment and Enhancement Act (FSFREA)	This Act provided authority to convey unneeded administrative sites and retain the proceeds for building maintenance, rehabilitation, and construction. In addition, projects initiated under the pilot authority of P.L. 107-63, Section 329 may continue under the provisions of the FSFREA. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012 extended the authority to September 30, 2016.	09/30/2016	NFS	P.L. 109-54; P.L. 111-8; P.L. 112-74	16 U.S.C. 580d note
Forest Service Facility Realignment Pilot	The Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 2002 provided authority through September 30, 2008 to implement a pilot program that allowed the agency to retain proceeds from the conveyance of excess structures and expend the receipts for building maintenance, rehabilitation, and construction.	09/30/2008	CIM	P.L. 107-63, Section 329	
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests for Research	The Act of June 30, 1978 authorizes the acceptance and use of donated funds for research activities.		R&D	P.L. 95-307	16 U.S.C. 1643
Gifts, Donations, and Bequests to the Department of Agriculture	The Act of October 10, 1978 authorizes agencies within the U.S. Department of Agriculture to accept donations for non-research activities (i.e., land or other real property).		ALL	P.L. 95-442	7 U.S.C. 2269
Global Change Research Act of 1990	Establishes the Committee on Earth and Environmental Sciences, part of the Federal Coordinating Council on Science, Engineering, and Technology under the Office of Science and Technology Policy of the Executive Office of the President. Authorizes funded participation in the United States Global Change Research Program as the Forest Service Global Change Research Program.		R&D	P.L. 101-606	15 U.S.C. 2931
Global Climate Change Prevention Act of 1990	Establishes a Global Climate Change Program at USDA to study the effects of global climate change on agriculture and forestry. The Program Direction shall coordinate policy analysis, long range planning and research across the Department and with other Agencies. The Act also establishes the Office of International Forestry to be responsible for the international forestry activities of the Forest Service and establishes the Institutes of Tropical Forestry; authorizes the creation of a pilot project in urban forestry.	09/30/2018	International Forestry; R&D	P.L. 101-624; P.L. 107-171; P.L. 110-234, sec 8202	7 U.S.C. 6701 to 6708

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Good Neighbor Authority	The Agricultural Act of 2014 expanded Colorado Good Neighbor Act authority (CGNA) to Puerto Rico and all States with National Forest System lands (also includes BLM-managed lands). Through this authority, the Secretary of Agriculture, via cooperative agreement or contract, can permit State agencies to perform watershed restoration and forest management services on National Forest System lands when similar and complementary restoration services are being performed on adjacent State or private lands.			P.L. 113-79	Not yet assigned.
Granger-Thye Act of April 24, 1950	This Act authorizes cooperation with other parties to perform work for permittees, agencies, organizations, and persons for work that the Forest Service is authorized to do, on lands of the United States. Also allows for research funds to be advanced to cooperators. Authorizes assistance for work on lands other than Forest Service jurisdictions.		ALL	P.L. 81-478	16 U.S.C. 572
Grazing Permits	The terms and conditions contained in the expired, transferred, or waived (or renewed prior to 2004) permit or lease shall continue in effect under the renewed permit or lease until such time as the Secretary completes processing of such permit or lease in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations or until the expiration of the renewed permit, whichever comes first. At which time such permit or lease may be canceled, suspended or modified, in whole or in part, to meet the requirements of such applicable laws and regulations.	09/30/2016	NFS	P.L. 108-108, Sec. 325; P.L. 111-88; P.L. 112-74; P.L. 113-46; P.L. 113-76; P.L. 114-113	43 U.S.C. 1752
Grey Towers National Historic Site Act of 2004	Creates permanently available Grey Towers National Historic Site Fund. The Secretary is authorized to enter into agreements for grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements as appropriate with the Pinchot Institute, public and other private agencies, organizations, institutions, and individuals to provide for the development, administration, maintenance, or restoration of land, facilities, or Forest Service programs at Grey Towers or to otherwise further the purposes of this section.		NFS	P.L. 108-447, Sec. 348	16 U.S.C. 461 note
Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research	This Act establishes the Institute of Hardwood Technology Transfer and Applied Research in Princeton, West Virginia, previously named the Robert C. Byrd Hardwood Technology Center		SPF	P.L. 106-113	16 U.S.C. 1650

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	in West Virginia. Certain revenues shall be deposited into a special Treasury fund to be available for obligation until expended.				
Hawaii Tropical Forestry Recovery Act of 1992	This Act grants authorities to the Secretary of Agriculture to treat invasive plants on Federal and non-Federal ownerships in Hawaii and in tropical forests on Federal lands in other States.		SPF, International Forestry	P.L. 102-574	16 U.S.C. 4505a, 4503
Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) of 2003	Title I of HFRA provides for expedited environmental review, a pre-decisional Forest Service administrative review process, and other measures on National Forest and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands that are at-risk of catastrophic fire. Titles II through VI authorize various forest health restoration programs, including promoting the use of woody biomass, creating the Health Forest Reserve Program, and providing watershed forestry assistance.		ALL	P.L. 108-148; P.L. 110-246	portions of 16 U.S.C. 6501 - 18 and 16 U.S.C. 6541-6591
Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forestry Recovery Act	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a pilot program to demonstrate the effectiveness of the resource management activities recommended in the Quincy Library Group-Community Stability Proposal. The Secretary shall conduct the pilot project on the Federal lands within Plumas National Forest, Lassen National Forest, and the Sierraville Ranger District of Tahoe National Forest in the State of California designated.	09/30/2012	NFS	P.L. 105-277; P.L. 110-161, Sec 434	16 U.S.C. 2104 note
Historic Preservation Act of 1966	This Act authorizes use of appropriated funds for the preservation and protection of historical and archaeological resources.		NFS	P.L. 89-665	16 U.S.C. 470
Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Preservation of Historical and Archaeological Data	These Acts authorizes use of appropriated funds for the preservation and protection of historical and archaeological resources and protection of archaeological data.		NFS	P.L. 93-291; P.L. 96-95; P.L. 106-355	16 U.S.C. sections of both 460 and 470
Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995	The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to charge reasonable user fees for the admission, occupancy, and use of the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; and may sell for salvage value any facilities and improvements which have been transferred under this Act. The Secretary may use amounts in the fund, in such amounts as are provided in advance in Appropriation Acts, for restoration and administration of the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.		NFS	P.L. 104-106	16 U.S.C. 1609 note

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie creation	Established the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie in Illinois, to be managed as part of the National Forest System. This Act also authorized the conversion of Joliet Army Ammunition Plant to the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. Further, certain revenue receipts from the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie are authorized for deposit into a special Treasury fund to be available for obligation until expended.		NFS	P.L. 104-106	16 U.S.C. 1609; 16 U.S.C. 698u
Illinois Land Conservation Act of 1995, special use authorizations	The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to issue agricultural special use authorizations or grazing permits for purposes primarily related to erosion control, provision for food and habitat for fish and wildlife, or other resource management activities consistent with the purposes of the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.		NFS	P.L. 104-106	16 U.S.C. 1609 note
International Forestry Cooperation Act of 1990	Authorizes support (including cooperation, financial, and technical assistance, without reimbursement) for international forestry and related natural resource activities outside the United States and its territories. Authorizes expansion of the research capabilities of the Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico.		International Forestry	P.L. 101-513; P.L. 102-574	16 U.S.C. 4501
Interpretive Associations (FS Partnership Agreements)	Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture may enter into an agreement with a Federal, Tribal, State, or local government or a nonprofit entity to develop, produce, publish, distribute, or sell educational and interpretive materials and products and other purposes.	09/30/2019		P.L. 94-148; P.L. 113-76	16 U.S.C. 565a-1
Job Corps	Comptroller General Decision B-215842, dated June 25, 1986, (65 Comp.Gen.666). In accordance with this Comptroller General Decision Job Corps reimbursable authority is restricted to the activities of collections from non-students for meals in the students' dining hall and collections from students for lost and/or damaged tools and clothing.		NFS		
Knutson-Vandenberg Act of June 9, 1930	The Knutson-Vandenberg Act established a special fund to collect a portion of timber sale receipts to pay for reforesting the area from which the timber was cut. The Act was amended in 1976 to allow the use of these funds for other sale area improvement activities. The FY 2006 Interior Appropriations Act amended this authority to allow for the expenditure of unused funds, not needed for work		NFS	P.L. 71-319; P.L. 94-588; P.L. 109-54	16 U.S.C. 576b

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	on the sale area, on other areas in the same Forest Service region.				
Lake Tahoe Restoration Act	This Act enables the Forest Service to plan and implement environmental restoration activities and forest management activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin, along with other Federal, State, local, regional, Tribal, and private entities to improve water quality.	09/30/ 2023	NFS	P.L. 106-506	
Land Acquisition Act of March 3, 1925	This Act authorizes the purchase of land for administrative sites and acceptance of donations of land when no suitable Government land is available. Appropriated funds must be available for the purpose for which the land is to be used. This authority is subject to an annual, service-wide limitation of \$50,000.		NFS	P.L. 68-575; P.L. 85-464	16 U.S.C. 555
Land and Facilities Conveyance (Realignment)	CONVEYANCES AUTHORIZED.— In the manner provided by this title, the Secretary may convey an administrative site, or an interest in an administrative site, that is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary. The conveyance of an administrative site under this title may be made—(1) by sale; (2) by lease; (3) by exchange; (4) by a combination of sale and exchange; or (5) by such other means as the Secretary considers appropriate.	9/30/2016	NFS, CIM	P.L. 109-54 P.L. 111-8 P.L. 112-74 16 U.S.C. 580d	
Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965	Created by Congress in 1964, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides money to Federal, State, and local governments to purchase land, water and wetlands for the benefit of all Americans. The Fund receives money from fees paid by companies drilling offshore for oil and gas. Other funding sources include the sale of surplus Federal real estate and taxes on motorboat fuel.	9/30/2018	NFS	P.L. 113-287 P.L. 114-113	54 U.S.C. 2003
Land Between the Lakes Protection Act of 1998	This Act establishes the Land Between the Lakes (LBL) Trust Fund and the LBL Management Fund. In accordance with Title V of the Act, responsibility for the LBL National Recreation Area in Kentucky and Tennessee transferred from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Act directed the Tennessee Valley Authority to deposit into the LBL Trust Fund \$1,000,000 for five years, to be available until expended. The Act also authorizes the Forest Service to retain certain recreation revenue receipts from the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, to be		NFS	P.L. 105-277, Title V of Sec. 101 - e	16 USC 460III (Chapter 1, subchapter CXXIII)

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	deposited into the LBL Management Fund to be available for obligation until expended.				
McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962	Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate and assist State colleges and universities in forestry research on a matching funds basis. Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to make competitive grants to a State agricultural experiment station, college, or university, research institution or organization, Federal agency, private organization, or corporation with the demonstrable capacity to conduct forestry, natural resource, and environmental research; and to update research facilities and equipment available for this type of research.		R&D and SPF	P.L. 87-788; P.L. 101-624	16 U.S.C. 582a and 582a-1-582a-7
Mineral Materials Act of 1947	This Act provides authority to: (a) dispose of mineral material and (b) approve and issue permits to explore and develop oil and gas leases.		NFS	P.L. 80-291	30 U.S.C. 226, 601-602, and 611
Mississippi National Forest Improvement Act of 1999	Authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange U.S. right, title, and interest in and to specified lands in Mississippi. Makes proceeds from such sales or exchanges available for the construction of a research laboratory and office at the Forest Service administrative site at Mississippi State University at Starkville, Mississippi; the acquisition, construction, or improvement of administrative facilities in connection with National Forest System units in the State; and the acquisition of land and interests in land for units of the NFS in the State.		NFS	P.L. 106-113	7 U.S.C. 1281 Note
Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960	Clarifies forest lands are to be administered for outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, wildlife, and fish. Authorized and directed the development and administration of the renewable surface resources of the National Forests for multiple use and sustained yield of the several products and services obtained there from.		NFS	P.L. 86-517	16 U.S.C. 528 note
Mutually Beneficial Agreements	Established permanent authority for the Forest Service to enter in to mutually beneficial agreements with public or private agencies, organizations, institutions, or persons. Exempts watershed restoration and enhancement agreements and agreements under the first section of P.L. 94-148 from Chapter 63 of Title 31, United States Code.		ALL	P.L. 111-11, sec. 3001	16 U.S.C. 1011

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
National and Community Service Act of September 21, 1993	Authorizes the Secretary to enter in to contracts or cooperative agreements with any qualified youth or conservation corps for completion of conservation work.		NFS	P.L. 103-82	42 U.S.C. 12501, 12572-12681
National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976	The NFMA requires that the Forest Service prepare and revise at fifteen-year intervals a land management plan (LMP) for each national forest to provide for multiple use and sustained yield of the products and services obtained from the forest. NFMA also establishes restrictions on timber harvest, such as provisions that harvest can only occur where soil, slope or other watershed conditions will not be irreversibly damaged. The Act directs the Secretary to develop regulations to set out the process for the development and revision of land management plans.		NFS	P.L. 94-588	16 U.S.C. 472a
National Forest Roads and Trails Act of 1964	This Act authorizes the acquisition, construction, and maintenance of National Forest System roads and trails. Also authorizes the construction of roads using cooperative financing from other agencies.		CIM	P.L. 88-657	16 U.S.C. 532-538
National Forest Ski Area Permit Act of 1986	The Act authorizes the issuance of permits for use and occupancy of suitable lands within the National Forest System for construction and maintenance of buildings, structures, and other facilities for hotels, resorts, summer homes, stores, industrial or commercial purposes, education or other public use, alpine and nordic skiing operations, and so forth.		NFS	P.L. 99-522	16 U.S.C. 497 and 497b
National Forest System Drug Control Act of 1986	Authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to prevent and control drug abuse on National Forest System lands, including investigative powers beyond the exterior boundaries of the National Forest System. For employment, equipment, facilities, training, and cooperative programs, \$10 million annually.		LEI	P.L. 99-570	16 U.S.C. 559b note, 559b-559g
National Trails System Act of 1968	Sections 7 and 10 authorize the acquisition, exchange, and donation of land for the National Trails System and for development, management, and volunteer assistance on the system.		CIM	P.L. 90-543	16 U.S.C. 1241-1251
Organic Administration Act of 1897	The Act provides authority for the administration, protection, and management of the National Forests, for the purposes of improving and protecting the forest, securing favorable conditions of water flows, and to furnish a continuous supply of		NFS, WFM		16 U.S.C. 473-478, 479-482, and 551

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	timber for the use and necessities of citizens of the United States. The Act also directs the Secretary of Agriculture to protect National Forests against destruction by fire and depredations.				
Organizational Camp Fees	The Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 provides authority to establish a land use fee system for the occupancy and use of NFS lands by organizational camps that serve young people or individuals with a disability.		NFS	P.L. 108-7	
Payment for Receipts for Schools and Roads	The Act of May 23, 1908, as amended, commonly known as "Payments to States", authorizes annual payments on a fiscal year basis to States equal to 25 percent of revenues from the sale of goods and services by the national forests. States shall use these payments for schools and roads.			P.L. 60-136	16 U.S.C. 500
Pest and Disease Revolving Loan Fund	Pest and Disease Revolving Loan Fund (Section 10205) – establishes a revolving loan fund to provide low interest loans to local governments to finance purchases of authorized equipment to monitor, remove, dispose of, and replace infested trees. Authorizes appropriations of such sums as are necessary.		SPF	P.L. 110-246	16 U.S.C. 2101a and continuing
Pipelines Act of 1920, Mineral Leasing Act	Rights-of-way through any Federal lands may be granted by the Secretary of the Interior or appropriate agency head for pipeline purposes for the transportation of oil, natural gas, synthetic liquid or gaseous fuels, or any refined product.		NFS	P.L. 66-146	30 U.S.C. 185
Private Schooling, Puerto Rico	Funds available to the Forest Service may be used for the purpose of expenses associated with primary and secondary schooling for dependents of agency personnel stationed in Puerto Rico at a cost not in excess of those authorized for the Department of Defense for the same area, at the discretion of the Chief of the Forest Service.	09/30/2019	ALL	P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-54; P.L. 111-88; P.L. 113-76	
Private Schooling, Puerto Rico	Funds available to the Forest Service may be used for the purpose of expenses associated with primary and secondary schooling for dependents of agency personnel stationed in Puerto Rico at a cost not in excess of those authorized for the Department of Defense for the same area, at the discretion of the Chief of the Forest Service.	09/30/2019	ALL	P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-54; P.L. 111-88; P.L. 113-76	
Private Schooling, Puerto Rico	Funds available to the Forest Service may be used for the purpose of expenses associated with primary and	09/30/2019	ALL	P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-54; P.L. 111-88;	

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	secondary schooling for dependents of agency personnel stationed in Puerto Rico at a cost not in excess of those authorized for the Department of Defense for the same area, at the discretion of the Chief of the Forest Service.			P.L. 113-76	
Quinault Special Management Area	The Act of November 8, 1968 establishes the "Quinault Special Management Area" from part of the Olympic National Forest, and assigns responsibility to the Forest Service for managing its natural resources and distributing proceeds from the sale of forest products according to provisions of the Act.		NFS	P.L. 100-638	
Reciprocal Fire Protection Act, Fire Protection Agreements and Mutual Aid Agencies	Authorizes agreements between agencies of the United States Government and other domestic agencies, including State and local entities and instrumentalities for mutual aid in fire protection and allows for reimbursements for costs incurred by the Department of Agriculture for fire protection rendered to be credited to the same appropriation or fund from which the expenses were paid.		WFM	P.L. 84-46; Not yet assigned.	42 U.S.C. 1856a-d; Not yet assigned.
Reforestation Trust Fund	The Recreational Boating Safety and Facilities Act establishes the Reforestation Trust Fund which receives monetary resources through an annual warrant from Treasury, of monies received for certain customs duties and tariffs. No more than \$30,000,000 may be deposited annually. The trust fund balance is available for reforestation and other "treatment of acreage." The Act's provisions give investment authority to the Forest Service for the trust fund balance.		NFS	P.L. 96-451	16 U.S.C. 1606a
Research Facilities Act of 1963	This Act authorizes support for agricultural research (including forestry) at eligible institutions through Federal grant funds, on a matching funds basis, to help finance physical facilities and equipment as required for the effective conduct of agricultural research and related academic programs.		R&D	P.L. 88-74; P.L. 95-113; P.L. 99-198	7 U.S.C. 390 - 390c
Research Grants Act of 1958	Provides, to agencies authorized to enter into contracts for basic scientific research with nonprofit institution and organizations, authority to make grants to such institutions and organizations; title to equipment purchased with such grants being vested with the nonprofit organization		R&D	P.L. 85-934	42 U.S.C. 1891-1893

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	or institution. Such sums as are necessary; no expiration date.				
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	An Act to provide technical and financial assistance for the development of management plans and facilities for the recovery of energy and other resources from discarded materials and for the safe disposal of discarded materials, and to regulate the management of hazardous waste. RCRA was last reauthorized by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984. The amendments set deadlines for permit issuance, prohibited the land disposal of many types of hazardous waste without prior treatment, required the use of specific technologies at land disposal facilities, and established a new program regulating underground storage tanks.		ALL	P.L. 94-580	42 U.S.C. 6901
Resource Management Timber Receipts	The 1990 Appropriations Act made excess receipts from timber sales available for support costs of National Forest System programs as follow: 6 percent for trail maintenance, 4 percent for trail construction, 20 percent for wildlife and fish habitat management, 20 percent for soil, water and air management, 5 percent for cultural resource management, 5 percent for wilderness management, 10 percent for reforestation and 30 percent for timber sale administration and management. No excess receipts were generated after 1989 and the balance of this fund was expended in FY 2012.	Does not expire but there have been no excess receipts generated since 1989; final funds spent in FY 2012.	NFS	P.L. 101-121	
Restoration of National Forest Lands and Improvements Act	This Act authorizes establishment of a fund for improvement, protection, or rehabilitation of National Forest System lands. This fund receives monies from (a) a forfeiture of a bond or deposit by a permittee or timber purchaser (b) the result of a judgment, compromise, or settlement of any claim, involving present or potential damage to lands or improvements. Funds are available until expended to cover the costs of performing the required work.		NFS	P.L. 85-464	16 U.S.C. 579c
Retention of Receipts, Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993	This Act authorizes the Forest Service to retain 15 percent of certain recreation receipts to defray the costs of collecting those receipts.		NFS	P.L. 103-66	16 U.S.C. 460i-6c, 16 U.S.C. 500, 16 U.S.C. 460
Rights-of-Way for Highways	Forest highways are generally constructed by the FHWA and then transferred to State ownership and		CIM	P.L. 85-767	23 U.S.C., Sections

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	control. This act authorizes appropriate transfer, to States, National Forest System lands for highway rights-of-way.				107(d), 204(f) and 317
Roads and Trails for States (Ten percent fund)	Act of March 4, 1913, as amended, commonly known as "Ten-percent Roads and Trails", authorizes 10 percent of all moneys received from the national forests during each fiscal year shall be available to be expended for the construction and maintenance of roads and trails within the national forests in the States from which such proceeds are derived. Annual appropriation acts have amended this Act to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to expend funds without regard to the State in which the amounts were derived.		NFS	P.L. 62-430	16 U.S.C. 501
Roads and Trails for States (10 Percent Fund), transfer to Treasury	The Department of the Interior Appropriations Act of 2010 directed "That funds becoming available in fiscal year 2010 under the Act of March 4, 1913 (16 U.S.C. 501) shall be transferred to the General Fund of the Treasury and for any other purpose unless the funds are appropriated."		NFS	P.L. 111-88	16 U.S.C. 501
Robert S. Kerr Memorial Arboretum and Nature Center	The Act of June 6, 1968 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to cooperate with, and receive the cooperation of, agencies, organizations and individuals in the development, administration, and operation of the Robert S. Kerr Memorial Arboretum and Nature Center in the Ouachita National Forest in Arkansas. The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to accept contributions and gifts to further the purposes of the Act.		NFS	P.L. 90-327	16 U.S.C. 693b-d
Rogue River Conveyance and Improvement Act	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the administrative site for the Rogue River National Forest and use the proceeds for the construction or improvement of offices and support buildings for the Rogue River National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management.		NFS	P.L. 105-282	
Rural Communities Technical Assistance	Starting in FY 1993, the Administrative or General Provisions language of the Interior Appropriations Act allows employees to interact with and provide technical assistance to rural communities for sustainable rural development outside the boundaries of National Forest System lands.		NFS	P.L. 102-381	
Rural Revitalization Technologies	Authorizes \$5,000,000 in annual appropriations for forestry rural revitalization technologies to: (A)	09/30/2018	SPF	P.L. 110-246; P.L. 113-79	7 U.S.C. 6601

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	accelerate adoption of technologies using biomass and small-diameter materials; (B) create community-based enterprises through marketing activities and demonstration projects; and (C) establish small-scale business enterprises to make use of biomass and small-diameter materials.				
Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000	This Act, originally authorized through FY 2006 as P.L. 106-393, provides choices to counties to either receive a guaranteed level of annual payments for roads and schools and other authorized purposes, as well as funding for specific resource improvement projects on the national forest where the county is located, or to receive payments under the Act of May 23, 1908. The Act was reauthorized through FY 2011 on October 3, 2008 in P.L. 110-343, Division C, Title VI. It was then reauthorized through FY 2012 on July 6, 2012 in P.L. 112-141 with some changes to funding levels, and reauthorized through FY 2013 by P.L. 113-40. Section 524 of P.L. 114-10 reauthorized SRS for two years, with the final payment for FY 2015 being made in January 2016.	09/30/2015		P.L. 106-393; P.L. 110-343; P.L. 112-141; P.L. 113-30 P.L. 114-10	16 U.S.C. 500 note; 16 U.S.C. 7101 et seq
Service First	The Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, subject to annual review of Congress, may establish pilot programs involving the land management agencies referred to in this section to conduct projects, planning, permitting, leasing, contracting and other activities, either jointly or on behalf of one another.		ALL	P.L. 106-291; P.L. 109-54; P.L. 111-8; P.L. 112-74	43 U.S.C. 1703; 43 U.S.C. 1701 note
Shasta Trinity Marina Permit Fee Collection	A permit fee for a marina on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest shall be deposited in a special account in the Treasury established for the Secretary of Agriculture, and shall remain available to the Secretary of Agriculture until expended, without further appropriation, for purposes stated in section 808(a)(3)(A-D) of title VIII of division J of Public Law 108-447 (16 U.S.C. 6807), and for direct operating or capital costs associated with the issuance of a marina permit.	9/30/2019	NFS	P.L. 110-161; P.L. 111-88; P.L. 113-76	16 U.S.C. 497; 16 U.S.C. 6807
Sisk Act of 1971	This Act authorizes cooperation with States and political subdivisions in enforcement of State and local laws on National Forest System lands, and reimbursement of States and political		NFS, SPF	P.L. 92-82	16 U.S.C. 551a

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	subdivisions for expenditures incurred in such activities.				
Small Tracts Act of January 12, 1983	This Act authorizes the sale, exchange, or interchange of National Forest System lands of forty acres or less and of \$150,000 or less in value.		NFS	P.L. 97-465	16 U.S.C. 521d
Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977	This Act authorizes cooperation in soil and water resource appraisal and conservation.	12/31/2018	ALL	P.L. 95-192; P.L. 110-246	16 U.S.C. 2008-9
Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998	This Act authorizes proceeds from the sale of public lands in Southern Nevada to be used to acquire environmentally sensitive lands in the State of Nevada. Lands acquired that are within the boundaries of a unit of the NFS, become part of that unit.		NFS	P.L. 105-263	31 U.S.C. 6901
Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004, Ecological Restoration Institutes	Establishes institutes to demonstrate and promote the use of adaptive ecosystem management to reduce the risk of wildfires, and restore the health of fire-adapted forest and woodland ecosystems of the interior west. If the Secretary determines that an Institute does not qualify for further Federal assistance under this Act, the Institute shall receive no further Federal assistance under this Act until such time as the qualifications of the Institute are reestablished. Authorizes \$15 million annually.		WFM	P.L. 108-317	16 U.S.C. 6701-6707
State and Private Forestry Redesign	Allows for a portion of CFAA funds, determined by the Secretary, to be competitively allocated to State Forestry agencies. No new authorization of appropriations.		SPF	P.L. 110-246	16 U.S.C. 2101a and continuing
State-wide Assessment and Strategies for Forest Resources	Authorization of appropriations for State-wide assessment and strategies for forest resources. Authorizes \$10,000,000 in annual appropriations for State-wide assessments of forest resource conditions. Plans must be submitted by May 22, 2010 for a State to be eligible to receive funds under the authorities of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-313), as amended. Additionally, the Secretary may use any other funds made available in the FY 2008 farm bill for planning, not to exceed \$10,000,000 per fiscal year. Annual reports from the States on the use of funds are required.	09/30/2018	SPF	P.L. 110-246	16 U.S.C. 2101a
Stewardship Contracting	This Act authorizes the Forest Service to enter into stewardship projects via agreement or contract to perform services to achieve land management goals and meet local and rural community needs. The Agricultural		NFS	P.L. 108-7; P.L. 113-46; P.L. 113-76; P.L. 113-79	

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	Act of 2014 made this authority permanent.				
Terry Peak Land Transfer Act of 1999	This Act requires the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands at the Terry Peak Ski Area to the private ski area owners and to utilize the proceeds to acquire more desirable lands for the United States for permanent public use and enjoyment.		NFS	P.L. 106-138	16 U.S.C. 497b; 16 U.S.C. 484a; 16 U.S.C. 521
Texas National Forests Improvement Act of 2000	To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites for National Forest System lands in the State of Texas, to convey certain National Forest System land to the New Waverly Gulf Coast Trades Center, and for other purposes.		NFS	P.L. 106-330	16 U.S.C. 484a
The Smokey Bear Act	This Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to deposit all fees collected under regulations promulgated by the Secretary relating to "Smokey Bear", into a special Treasury account to be available to further the nationwide forest fire prevention campaign. Most fees deposited under this Act are royalty fees from Smokey Bear character-licensing collection agreements with merchandisers.			P.L. 82-359	16 U.S.C. 580p-2; 18 U.S.C. 711
Thye-Blatnik Act of June 22, 1948, Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness	The Act established the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in the Superior National Forest and subsequently revised the designation and boundaries to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) and Mining Protection Area.		NFS	P.L. 87-351; P.L. 94-384	16 U.S.C. 577h
Thye-Blatnik Act of June 22, 1948, Payments to Minnesota Counties	This Act, commonly known as "Payments to Minnesota Counties", authorizes annual payments on a fiscal year basis to the State of Minnesota from any national forest receipts not otherwise appropriated, an amount equivalent to three-quarters of 1 percent of the fair appraised value of certain national forest lands specified in the Act, situated in three Minnesota counties (sec. 61.2). Payments under the Act of May 23, 1908 (sec. 60.1 paragraph 1), shall not be applicable to the national forest land to which this Act applies.		NFS	P.L. 87-351; P.L. 94-384	16 U.S.C. 577g
Timber Salvage Sales (authorized by NFMA)	NFMA authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to require purchasers of salvage timber to make monetary deposits in a designated Treasury fund to cover the costs for sale preparation and administration, and the engineering design and administration of any needed roads necessary for the		NFS	P.L. 94-588	16 U.S.C. 472a (h)

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	harvesting of salvage timber. Funds are available until expended.				
Timber Purchaser Elect (authorized by NFMA)	NFMA authorizes the acquisition, construction, and maintenance of National Forest System roads and trails; cooperation with States, counties, and other subdivisions; construction of roads by timber purchasers; and election by timber purchasers to have the Forest Service construct the roads.		NFS	P.L. 94-588	16 U.S.C. 472a
Timber Roads, Purchaser Election	The Department of the Interior Appropriations Act of 1999 authorizes small business timber purchasers to elect to pay the Forest Service to construct or reconstruct any permanent roads or bridges required by the timber sale. The timber purchaser must be classified as a small business operator, and the total estimated reconstruction and construction cost in the timber sale contract must exceed \$50,000.		NFS	P.L. 105-277	16 USC 535a
Timber Roads, Purchaser Election Construction Program	This Department of the Interior Appropriations Act of 2008 authorized the use of \$15,000,000 from current balances of the Purchaser Election Fund for vegetative treatments.		NFS	P.L. 110-161	
Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund	The Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Action of 1996 authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to collect and deposit revenues from a specific set of timber sales. The sales, known under the program as first generation sales, had been suspended legally for various environmental reasons and were released under P.L. 104-19, [title II, Sec. 2001(k)], July 27, 1995. The revenues are to be used to prepare timber sales and addressing the backlog of recreation projects. Revenues from the sale of timber prepared using these funds are also deposited into this fund and are available for preparation of additional timber sales and recreation backlog projects.		NFS	P.L. 104-134	16 U.S.C. 1611 note
Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund, Office of General Counsel opinion	Office of General Counsel Opinion dated December 13, 2002. This opinion states that timber sales under the Timber Pipeline Restoration program must use sales receipts for payments to States before net receipts are deposited into the Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund.		NFS		
Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990	This Act established the Tongass Timber Supply Fund with related appropriations to finance the consistent supply of saw timber from		NFS	P.L. 101-626	16 U.S.C. 539d

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	the Tongass National Forest to meet the annual market demand as defined in the Act and to use wood products which might otherwise not be utilized.				
Transfer of funds to BLM for Wild Horse and Burro and Cadastral surveys	Authorization to transfer up to \$10,000,000 from the National Forest Systems appropriation to BLM for removal, preparation, and adoption of excess wild horses and burros from NFS lands, and for cadastral surveys.		NFS	P.L. 108-447; P.L. 111-88; P.L. 113-76	Transfer of funds to BLM for Wild Horse and Burro and Cadastral surveys
Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2002	This Act authorizes Federal agencies to receive and use revenue resulting from waste prevention and recycling programs. Such revenue shall be available until expended for the purpose of waste reduction, prevention and recycling. The FS uses this authority for its "Go Green" program in which funds are collected from recycling and can be used to accomplish clean-up activities on the unit.		ALL	P.L. 107-67 Title VI	
Treatment of Contributions of Volunteers	The Forest Service may consider the value of services performed by person who volunteer their services to the Forest Service and who are recruited, trained, and supported by a cooperator as an in-kind contribution of the cooperator for purposes of any cost sharing requirement under any Forest Service authority to enter into mutual benefit agreements.	9/30/2019	ALL	P.L. 113-76	
Trust Fund Authorization	Section 1321 of Title 31 of the United States Code authorizes Trust Funds.		NFS		31 U.S.C. 1321
U.S. Mining Laws Act of May 10, 1872	This Act governs mining activities for valuable minerals on public domain lands.		ALL		30 U.S.C. 22 and 28
Use and Occupancy Permits Act of 1915	To permit the use and occupancy of areas for the purpose of constructing or maintaining hotels, resorts, summer homes, commercial purposes, and other structures. (Note: There are special provisions under P.L. 99-522 for ski areas).		NFS	P.L. 63-293	16 U.S.C. 497
Use of Funds for Program Information Purposes and for Nonmonetary Awards	Hereafter, any appropriations or funds available to the Forest Service may be used to disseminate program information to private and public individuals and organizations through the use of nonmonetary items of nominal value. This act also provides for nonmonetary awards of nominal value and to incurring of necessary expenses for the nonmonetary recognition of private individuals and organizations making contributions to Forest Service programs.			P.L. 105-277	16 U.S.C. 556h

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Valles Caldera Preservation Act of July 25, 2000	This Act authorizes the Valles Caldera Trust to receive and collect funds in support of the management and administration of the Preserve. Pursuant to the 2015 Defense Authorization Act, the Valles Caldera Preserve will be transferred to the management of the National Park Service in FY 2015. Any unobligated balances in the fund after the transfer is complete will be transferred to the Department of the Interior.		NFS	P.L. 106-248	16 U.S.C. 698v-4, 698v-6
Virginia Land Conveyance and Improvement Act	Authorizes the sale or exchange of all or parts of certain administrative sites and other lands in the George Washington National Forest and the Jefferson National Forest. Authorizes the use of sale revenue to acquire a replacement site and to construct on the site suitable improvements for national forest administrative purposes.		NFS	P.L. 105-171	16 U.S.C. 484a
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Agreements	Appropriations for the Forest Service may be used by the Secretary of Agriculture for the purpose of entering into cooperative agreements with willing Federal, tribal, State and local governments, private and nonprofit entities and landowners for the protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other resources on public or private land, the reduction of risk from natural disaster where public safety is threatened, or a combination thereof or both that benefit these resources within the watershed.		ALL	P.L. 105-277 Sec. 323; P.L. 111-11 Sec. 3001	16 U.S.C. 1011 note
Weeks Act of 1911	Sections 1 and 2 authorize land acquisition for watershed protection and timber production. One of the primary authorities for land acquisition with Land and Water Conservation Fund moneys.		NFS	P.L. 61-435	16 U.S.C. 516, 521b
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968	Sections 6 and 16 authorize land acquisition, exchange, and donation of land for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System.		NFS	P.L. 90-542	16 U.S.C. 1277
Wilderness Act of 1964	Sections 5 and 6 provide authority for acquisition, exchange, and donation of land for inclusion in the Wilderness System.		NFS	P.L. 88-577	16 U.S.C. 1131-1136
Wildfire Suppression Act	This Act authorizes reciprocal agreements with foreign fire organizations for mutual aid in wildfire protection.		WFM	P.L. 101-11	42 U.S.C. 1856m note
Youth and Conservation Corps activities	Together, the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 and the Public Lands Corp Healthy Forest Restoration Act of		NFS	P.L. 109-154	16 U.S.C. 1701 - 1730

Title of the Act or Program	Summary of Authority	Expiration date (if applicable)	Programs Affected	Public Law Citation	USC Reference
	2005 provide for the conduct of projects that protect forests, and for other purposes by qualified youth or conservation corps up to \$12 million per year.				